

Hafa Adai!

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AS JAPAN EASES TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

CNMI anticipates rise in Japanese travelers

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

CNMI community stakeholders raise a glass to the return of the CNMI's Japan market as well as in commemoration of United Airlines' first flight from Narita, Japan to Saipan during the Japan-Saipan inaugural flight ceremony last Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan ballroom.

With Japan easing up on its travel restrictions, the CNMI is hoping to see a rise in Japanese tourists traveling to Saipan in the months to come.

During the celebratory dinner to commemorate the return of the CNMI's Japan market, and to celebrate United Airlines' inaugural flight from Narita to Saipan, it was

See **TRAVELERS** on **Page 4**

Torres: Skymark, PAL still interested

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said Friday that Skymark Airlines Inc. and Philippine Airlines are still interested in resuming their direct flights between Saipan-Japan and Saipan-Philippines.

Speaking at the KKMP radio press briefing, Torres said he did not talk to Skymark directly, but that a third party

informed him that there is a strong interest by Skymark to resume their Saipan-Japan direct flights.

The governor said Skymark has challenges domestically but once they figured them out and things moved forward, he was informed that Saipan is still their No. 1 destination if they got out internationally.

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, Skymark suspended its

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America's secrets: Trump's unprecedented disregard of norms

By **AAMER MADHANI**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—Donald Trump isn't the first to face criticism for flouting rules and traditions around the safeguarding of sensitive government records, but national security experts say recent revelations point to an unprecedented disregard of post-presidency norms established after the Watergate era.

See **TRUMP** on **Page 4**



Former President Donald Trump speaks at a rally in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Saturday, Sept. 3, 2022.

AP

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Many major retailers slashed their financial outlooks for the year. But among the notable exceptions: beauty.

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WORLD

A series of stabbings at an Indigenous community and at another town nearby in Saskatchewan left 10 people dead and 15 wounded.

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OVERDRIVE

For the 2023 model year, Acura is returning to its roots of "Precision Crafted Performance" with the all-new Acura Integra.

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Local

US Veterans Affairs staff due on Saipan next week

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Staff from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will visit the Saipan Veterans Affairs clinic from Sept. 14 to 16, 2022 to help all eligible veterans enroll in VA health clinic, according to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP).

Sablan in his e-kilili newsletter published Saturday also disclosed that on Tuesday last

» **To help eligible veterans enroll in VA health clinic**
» **Kilili says Division of Agriculture awarded \$125K grant for food security program**

week the U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded the

CNMI's Division of Agriculture \$125,000 under its Micro-Grants for Food Security Program to increase the quantity and quality of locally grown food through small-scale gardening, herding, and livestock operations.

On the U.S. DVA staff visit, Sablan said all veterans who may qualify should enroll, even if they don't plan on using the VA health care.

"Enrolling with VA is a ser-

vice to our veterans community, because a larger pool of registered vets will help support more VA services in the Marianas," he said.

The delegate said the upcoming enrollment push is a result of the passage of the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022 that he co-sponsored

securing access to life-saving care for the 3.5 million veterans exposed to deadly toxins in the line of duty.

PACT Act addresses health care, presumption of service-connection, research, resources, and other matters related to veterans who were exposed to toxic substances



Sablan

during military service.

With respect to \$125,000 grant for food security, Sablan said CNMI Division of Agriculture plans to conduct outreach to encourage eligible entities to apply for funding, including individual farmers, ranchers, food pantries, Head Start, Public School System, and Northern Marianas College Community Research and Extension Services.

ON COMPLAINTS FILED AFTER WARRANTLESS ARRESTS

Supreme Court finds prosecutor's signature unnecessary

The Supreme Court issued its order granting a petition for writ of mandamus in *In re Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*, 2022 MP 5.

The petition concerned criminal complaints filed after warrantless arrests. They are called Rule 5 complaints because NMI Rule of Criminal Procedure 5 requires that when police make a warrantless arrest, a complaint show-

ing probable cause for the arrest must be filed.

In this case, a man was arrested without a warrant on suspicion of domestic violence. After the arrest, a police officer wrote a Rule 5 complaint and supporting affidavit. The officer got a prosecutor to electronically sign the complaint indicating that they reviewed it. The officer then appeared before a judge and swore to the affidavit's

truthfulness. The Superior Court ended up rejecting the complaint and dismissing the case without prejudice due to the nature of the prosecutor's signature. Specifically, instead of filing the document through the judiciary's e-filing system, the prosecutor signed it by inserting an image of his physical signature. The Superior Court indicated that this type of signature could not be trusted.

Following the dismissal, the

Commonwealth filed its petition, which asked the Supreme Court to order the Superior Court to accept Rule 5 complaints filed by police officers which have the type of electronic signature by the prosecutor used in the dismissed complaint.

Article I, Section 3 of the NMI Constitution and the Fourth Amendment require that warrants be issued "upon probable cause supported by

oath or affirmation." While warrantless arrests are sometimes allowed, the government still has to show probable cause, and Rule 5's purpose is to fulfill that requirement.

The Supreme Court granted the Commonwealth's petition because it found that a prosecutor's signature is not necessary on a Rule 5 complaint. The constitutional mandate of probable cause for an arrest is satisfied when

a judge hears evidence presented to them under oath which they find sufficient. A signature by a prosecutor, physical or electronic, is not needed to find probable cause. Therefore, the Superior Court cannot reject a Rule 5 complaint submitted by a police officer because a prosecutor's signature is in a certain electronic format. Concerns about the genuineness of a particular signature need to be based on evidence.

The Court's full opinion is available at <https://cnmilaw.org/pdf/supreme/2022-MP-05.pdf>. (PR)

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For more information please contact the CNMI Suicide Prevention Program at 670-664-LIVE (5483) or 670-664-LIFE (5433).

Developed by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC), Community Guidance Center, Suicide Prevention Program. Supported in part through grant number 6H795M062879 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency of the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The contents above are solely the responsibility of the CHCC and do not necessarily reflect the official views of SAMHSA AND DHHS.

Defense wants Mafnas' suit vs DOF chief dismissed

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

The defense in the lawsuit filed by Division of Customs and Biosecurity director Jose Mafnas is seeking dismissal of the complaint against Department of Finance Secretary David Atalig for failure to state a claim for relief.

Matthew Gregory, who represents Atalig in his personal capacity, has moved the District Court for the NMI to dismiss, with prejudice, Mafnas' lawsuit against his client for failing to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

Dismissal with prejudice means the lawsuit cannot be refiled.

In addition, Gregory also wants the court to dismiss all causes of actions alleged by Mafnas that he claims was a violation of his constitutional right.

Gregory argues that his client's conduct did not violate clearly established rights because the transfer was legal under CNMI law.

"Atalig was reasonable in his assumption that he was not violating any clearly established right. Therefore, he is entitled to qualified

immunity. The allegation of retaliation and a conspiracy between defendants, without any factual content to bolster it, does nothing to enhance the plausibility of plaintiff's claims against defendants," he said.

The lawyer said the next step would be to evaluate the plaintiff's specific factual allegations to determine whether the court can reasonably infer a First Amendment violation from those facts.

"Plaintiff raises two separate conclusory factual allegations in support of his claims. He alleges that

Atalig reassigned him due to political animus, and secondly, that Atalig caused him to lose his right to continued employment as a civil service employee. Mafnas has pleaded no facts to show that the protected activity was a substantial or motivating factor in the defendant's conduct," Gregory argued.

Gregory also requested the court to have the CNMI government substitute Atalig as defendant in the lawsuit because the complaint alleged violations of state law, and due to the Commonwealth's certification that Atalig was

acting within the scope of his employment.

Mafnas filed his complaint in the District Court for the NMI in July 2022 and named as defendants Wil Castro, in his personal capacity and in his official capacity as the governor's chief of staff; Atalig in his personal capacity and in his official capacity as secretary of Finance; and the CNMI government.

Mafnas, who is represented by attorney Charity Hodson, asked the federal court to prevent Atalig from removing Mafnas from his position as Customs director

or to reinstate him pending a decision on the merits of his complaint.

Mafnas also took out a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction against the defendants.

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted the TRO on Aug. 2, which expired on Aug. 16.

However, before the expiration of the TRO, on Aug. 15, Manglona granted the parties' stipulation to issue a preliminary injunction indefinitely prohibiting Mafnas' reassignment pending judgment.

Salt & Barber Saipan is latest ProaPerks partner

Salt & Barber Saipan is the latest company to sign on as a Northern Marianas College ProaPerks Partner, joining many other businesses and organizations. All card-carrying members of the NMC ProaPerks program can now receive a 10% discount on all services plus a 10% discount on retail products with a purchase of services.

The salon is located on the corner of Beach Road and Angaha Street in Garapan. It is open from Monday to Sunday, 10am- 7pm. They can be reached by calling

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Salt & Barber Saipan joins the growing list of ProaPerks partners, such as 153 Restaurant, 360 Restaurant, 4EVER CNMI, Alamo Car Rental, AllStar Sporting Goods, Aqua Connections, Inc., AQUA-SMITH, Athlete's Foot, Avis Rent A Car, BAB Korean Restaurant Cup Bab, Bis- tro Marianas, Chagi Norf Kitchen, Boarderline, Bolis R US 2, Candle J, Caravan of Food, Casa Decor, Casa Urashima, Chelu Alynez Enterprise, Chungi Wa Korean Restaurant, Clear Wa-

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Bill giving preference to veterans for employment OK'd

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives has passed a bill that would permit private employers to exercise a voluntary veterans' preference in employment relating to veterans' relief.

At a House session last week, all 16 House members present voted "yes" to pass House Bill No. 22-85. The bill, which is authored by House Speaker Edmund V. Villagomez

(Ind-Saipan) now goes to the Senate for action.

The bill proposes to amend Title I, Division 2, Part 1, Article 7 of the Commonwealth Code to add a new section referring to voluntary veterans' preference in employment.

The new subsection states that "in every private, nonpublic employment in this state, honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, and marines who are veterans of any war of the United States, or of any

military campaign for which a campaign ribbon has been awarded, and their widows or widowers, may be preferred for employment."

Spouses of honorably discharged veterans who have a service connected permanent and total disability may also be preferred for employment.

Villagomez stated in the bill that members of the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard and other veterans have been doing the heavy lifting

in Afghanistan and Iraq and other military efforts around the world and throughout history.

Villagomez said because the military is a major employer for CNMI residents, and many veterans return here once they are discharged, the veteran population is growing larger while the economic opportunities continue to diminish.

"This bill is a reasonable way to honor those who have served their country by following both federal and state laws that provide preferences for honorably discharged veterans in employment in federal, state, and

local government," he said.

The House speaker cited an example regarding some public employment positions, in which applicants must take a competitive examination.

He said in those cases, preference is given to veterans by adding a percentage to the passing mark, grade, or rating of an examination.

Villagomez pointed out that federal law allows states and U.S. commonwealths to provide some preferences to assist veterans.

This legislation, he said, intends to mirror public employment preferences.

TRUMP

From Page 1

Document dramas have cropped up from time to time over the years.

Democrat Lyndon B. Johnson's national security adviser held onto explosive records for years before turning them over to the Johnson presidential library. The records showed that the campaign of his successor, Richard Nixon, was secretly communicating in the final days of the 1968 presidential race with the South Vietnamese government in an effort to delay the opening of peace talks to end the Vietnam War.

A secretary in Ronald Reagan's administration, Fawn Hall, testified that she altered and helped shred documents related to the Iran-Contra affair to protect Oliver North, her boss at the White House National Security Council.

Barack Obama's CIA director, David Petraeus, was forced to resign and pleaded guilty to a federal misdemeanor for sharing classified material with a biographer with whom he was having an affair. Hillary Clinton, while Obama's secretary of state, faced FBI scrutiny that extended into her 2016 presidential campaign against Trump for her handling of highly classified material in a private email account. The FBI director recommended no criminal charges but criticized Clinton for her "extremely careless" behavior.

As more details emerge from last month's FBI search of Trump's Florida home, the Justice Department has painted a portrait of an indifference for the rules on a scale that some thought inconceivable after establishment of the Presidential Records Act in 1978.

"I cannot think of a historical precedent in which there was even the suspicion that a president or even a high-ranking officer in the administration, with the exception of the Nixon administration, purposely and consciously or even accidentally removing such a sizable volume of papers," said Richard Immerman, who served as assistant deputy director of national intelligence from 2007 to 2009.

FBI agents who searched Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort on Aug. 8 found more than 100 documents with classification markings, including 18 marked top secret, 54 secret and 31 confidential, according to court filings. The FBI also identified 184 documents marked as classified in 15 boxes recovered by the National

Archives in January, and it received additional classified documents during a June visit to Mar-a-Lago. An additional 10,000 other government records with no classification markings were also found.

That could violate the Presidential Records Act, which says that such records are government property and must be preserved.

That law was enacted after Nixon resigned from office in the midst of the Watergate scandal and sought to destroy hundreds of hours of secretly recorded White House tapes. It established government ownership of presidential records starting with Ronald Reagan.

The act specifies that immediately after a president leaves office, the National Archives and Records Administration takes legal and physical custody of the outgoing administration's records and begins to work with the incoming White House staff on appropriate records management.

According to the National Archives, records that have no "administrative, historical, informational, or evidentiary value" can be disposed of before obtaining the archivist's written permission.

Documents have been recovered from Trump's bedroom, closet, bathroom and storage areas at his Florida resort, which doubles as his home. In June, when Justice Department officials met a Trump lawyer to retrieve records in response to a subpoena, the lawyer handed them documents in a "Redweld envelope, double-wrapped in tape."

Trump has claimed he declassified all the documents in his possession and had been working in earnest with department officials on returning documents when they conducted the Mar-a-Lago search. During the 2016 campaign, Trump asserted that Clinton's use of her private email server for sensitive State Department material was disqualifying for her candidacy; chants from his supporters to "lock her up" became a mainstay at his political rallies.

James Trusty, a lawyer for Trump in the records matter, said on Fox News that Trump's possession of the sensitive government material was equivalent to hanging on to an "overdue library book."

But Trump's former attorney general, Bill Barr, said in a separate Fox News interview that he was "skeptical" of Trump's claim that he declassified everything. "People say this (raid) was unprecedented -- well, it's also unprecedented for a president

to take all this classified information and put them in a country club, OK," Barr said.

Trump's attitude about White House records is not so surprising to some who worked for him.

One of Trump's national security advisers, John Bolton, said briefers quickly learned that Trump often tried to hang onto sensitive documents, and they took steps to make sure documents didn't go missing. Classified information was tweeted, shared with reporters and adversaries — even found in a White House complex bathroom.

That approach is out of step with how modern-day presidents have operated.

Obama, while writing his White House memoir after leaving office, had paper records he used in his research delivered to him in locked bags from a secure National Archives storage facility and returned them in similar fashion.

Dwight Eisenhower, who left office years before the Presidential Records Act was passed, kept official records secure at Fort Ritchie, Maryland, even though there was no requirement for him to do so.

Neil Eggleston, who served as White House counsel during the final years of the Obama administration, recalled that Fred Fielding, who held the same position in the George W. Bush administration, advised him as he started his new job to hammer home to staff the requirements set in the records act.

Similarly, Trump's White House counsel, Donald McGahn, sent a staff-wide memo in the first weeks of the administration underscoring "that presidential records are the property of the United States."

"It's not a hard concept that documents prepared during the course of our presidential administration are not your personal property or the president's personal properties," Eggleston said.

Presidents are not required to obtain security clearances to access intelligence or formally instructed on their responsibilities to safeguard secrets when they leave office, said Larry Pfeiffer, a former CIA officer and senior director of the White House Situation Room.

But guidelines issued by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, which oversees the intelligence agencies, require that any "sensitive compartmented information" — some of the highest-value intelligence the U.S. possesses — be viewed only in secure rooms known as "SCIFs."

TORRES

From Page 1

Saipan-Narita, Narita-Saipan operations starting in March 2020.

Skymark is reportedly now focusing on stabilizing their domestic operations and rebuilding their financial resources after losing millions over the last two years.

Skymark made its inaugural daily direct flight from Tokyo to Saipan on Nov. 29, 2019. Primarily a domestic airline in Japan, Saipan was Skymark's first regular international flight.

With respect to Philippine Airlines, Torres said when he last spoke to them, they are looking into the numbers and more information about the medical/referral patients from Saipan.

"But the fact that they are interested, they are committed," he said.

The governor said pertaining to the workforce, the CNMI needs a lot of

workers especially in the construction industry.

He said there are also enough Filipino tourists to come to Saipan and enjoy the CNMI as well.

"So they are working on that. And then of course, you can also include cargo," Torres added.

The governor said every opportunity to enhance CNMI's tourist destination with other partners is better for all.

"The more airlines, the more destinations that are interested, the more we should look into programs to create and give that opportunity," he said.

PAL Express Manila-Saipan flights resumed operations in June 2016, or after close to 20 years. In March 2017, due to lack of demand, PAL downgraded its service to seasonal flights as opposed to the former weekly flights. PAL eventually stopped flying the route either in 2017 or 2018.

TRAVELERS

From Page 1

announced that the Japanese government has eased its travel restrictions for its boosted population.

According to Marianas Visitors Authority Travel Resumption Investment Plan chair Ivan Quichocho, about 60% of the Japanese population is boosted and MVA is focusing most of its efforts in enticing them to visit Saipan.

"First and foremost, we need to fill these flights. The Japanese government just eased restrictions for those that are boosted, meaning that they don't need to take PCRs before they leave, or when they return. Now, over 60% of the Japanese populace has already been boosted. So that's a huge market for us to be able to immediately tap into and so that's super important. So right now, our main focus is to attract those customers and get them over here. Fill the flights," he said.

Fortunately, Quichocho said, since Saipan's pristine golfing ranges have always been selling points for the Japan market, and the golf market usually consists of the older population, odds are most of these individuals are already boosted which is good news for the CNMI.

What we immediately need to concentrate on are those that are already boosted. And when you think about

the golf market, a lot of them are higher up in age. So typically, they'll be boosted already. So we've really channeled efforts to focus on niche markets in golf, diving, and what-not," he said.

Because Japan has just eased its restrictions, Quichocho said it is still going to be a challenge to really fill up seats for September, however, he is hopeful as the winter months approach, the CNMI hopes to see a rise in Japanese tourists coming to Saipan with hopefully 80% to 85% of each weekly flight filled.

"The easement of restriction was just announced. So obviously with the recent wave spikes still there, the numbers are still over 200,000 in infections. However, [Japan] is starting to take this on more as an endemic. So September is still going to be tough to try and fill given restrictions that were just lifted. Japanese have a tendency to book in advance. So if you ask me, our main goal is to have at least 460 a week. That's for all three flights because the plane holds 166 per flight, so times three. So 460 I think we're at a reasonable number," Quichocho said.

However, optimistically, Quichocho said the hope and mission is still to completely fill each 166-seater weekly flight.

"It's our mission to fill these flights up. But if we get 80-85% loads, that's a decent load," he said.

TERRITORY AGREES WITH DOJ VIEW

A. Samoa: US Congress can deny citizenship to people born in territories

The American Samoan government and American Samoa's non-voting Delegate to Congress Aumua Amata continue to argue in a new filing to the Supreme Court that people born in U.S. territories have no constitutional right to U.S. citizenship.

Instead, they agree with the U.S. Justice Department that Congress has the unilateral power to deny citizenship to people born in U.S. territories. In their view, American Samoa – which has been a U.S. territory since 1900 – is neither “in the United States” nor “subject to the jurisdiction thereof” for purposes of the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

“Our elected officials today continue to ignore that the traditional leaders who ceded sovereignty of our lands to the United States did so on the understanding that they would be recognized U.S. citizens as a result. In fact, after the federal government imposed the second-class status of non-citizen national in the 1920s, for decades our leaders fought for American Samoans to be recognized as full U.S. citizens,” said American Samoan Attorney Charles V. Ala'ilima, who serves as co-counsel for the Fitise-manu petitioners along

with attorneys at Equally American and Gibson, Dunn, & Crutcher LLP.

“The idea that American Samoa is not ‘in the United States’ is baffling – not only is ‘American’ in the name itself, but American Samoans have the highest military enlistment and casualty rates of any U.S. jurisdiction,” Ala'ilima added. “To argue that American Samoa is not ‘subject to the jurisdiction’ of the United States even as our Constitutional Convention attempts to limit the unilateral authority of Congress and the Secretary of the Interior over our people is simply unbelievable.”

Ala'ilima concluded, “If our leaders today don't want to be a part of the United States, or if they want a status similar to Micronesia, they should say so. But so long as the U.S. flag flies overhead our people have a constitutional right to be recognized as citizens that Congress has no power to deny.”

Current and former elected officials from Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have filed briefs in support of recognizing a right to citizenship in U.S. territories, and calling on the Supreme Court to overrule the Insular Cases. Earlier this year,

they argued to the Supreme Court that “all persons born in the United States, including the Territories of the United States, have equal entitlement to the Constitution's promise of birthright citizenship.”

The American Samoan government's brief argues that federal courts should not recognize a right to U.S. citizenship, believing that such a decision could threaten American Samoan self-determination or the Fa'a Samoa, the traditional Samoan way of life.

“The Fitise-manu plaintiffs agree with American Samoan officials on the importance of self-determination and cultural preservation, they just disagree that recognizing a right to citizenship would threaten those values,” Ala'ilima stated. “Once again, American Samoan officials fail to provide any legal basis for their concerns over citizenship.”

The view that recognition of a right to citizenship is compatible with protecting self-determination and cultural preservation is emphasized in the brief filed by elected officials from other territories who “demonstrate through their own experiences how U.S. citizenship is fully compatible with the Territories' right to self-determination, their

local legal traditions, and the preservation of their vibrant cultural heritage.”

Legal scholars who have considered the objections to recognition of citizenship raised by American Samoan officials have found them legally unfounded. As Professor Christina Ponsa Kraus writes in a recent article published in the Yale Law Review, “citizenship would not threaten any of the cultural practices at issue,” arguing further that “even without the Insular Cases, constitutional law contains sufficient flexibility to accommodate most, if not all, of the cultural practices.” Professors Cassandra Burke Robertson and Irina D Manta emphasize in a recent Texas Law Review article that “at this time there is no affirmative legal authority suggesting that citizenship would play any role in deciding the legality of these [cultural] practices.” Professors Guy C. Charlton and Tim Fadgen further explain in a recent article published in a UCLA journal that “using the Insular framework to argue that Sāmoan self-determination is enhanced inappropriately conceptualizes the notion of self-determination.”

While American Samoan elected officials have opposed

recognition of a right to citizenship for those born in American Samoa, those views are not shared by all. Over the course of the Fitise-manu litigation, hundreds of American Samoans living throughout the United States have expressed strong dissatisfaction over being denied recognition as citizens, and also explained many ways in which being denied citizenship has impacted their lives.

Some American Samoan officials insist that the Fitise-manu plaintiffs and others who want to be recognized as citizens should just naturalize. But those living in American Samoa are not even legally able to naturalize. And those who have established the requisite residency in the states are required to go through the same naturalization process as an eligible foreign national – an expensive, stressful, and burdensome process that can take 1-2 years or more and has no guarantee of success.

“The discriminatory denial of citizenship to people born in American Samoa makes it harder for our community's voice to be heard politically, and harder for our people to succeed economically,” said Michelle Mataese, President of the Los Angeles-based Sa-

moan Federation of America, which filed a brief in support of the Fitise-manu petitioners outlining the historical support for citizenship in American Samoa and addressing how the denial of citizenship causes real harms without serving to advance American Samoa self-determination or cultural preservation. “Our traditional leaders who signed the Deeds of Cession were right – with the transfer of sovereignty over our lands to the United States, our people gained a right to be recognized as U.S. citizens, and citizenship presents no threat to our culture or self-determination.”

The Fitise-manu plaintiffs will be filing their reply to the United States and American Samoan government in the coming weeks. The Supreme Court will consider whether to take up the Fitise-manu appeal in October or November.

More information addressing concerns raised by American Samoans officials about *Fitise-manu* is included in this FAQ. And all the court filings in *Fitise-manu*, along with additional background materials, is provided here. A statement addressing the U.S. Justice Department's response to the *Fitise-manu* petition is available here. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) CNMI GOVERNMENT

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NOTICE OF OPEN PUBLIC AUCTIONS - SURPLUS EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is inviting all individuals, firms, and recycling centers to three open public auctions of CPA's surplus equipment and materials. The list of surplus equipment and materials is available beginning August 5, 2022 for pick-up at the CPA Office of the Executive Director, which is located at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Building, 2nd floor, or via email upon request.

Item Inspection: All items will be available for inspection beginning August 15, 2022 to August 26, 2022, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, business days only. Items located on Saipan may be inspected by contacting Mr. Dennis Cruz at telephone number (670) 237-6596 or (670) 483-4516. Items located on Rota may be inspected by contacting Mr. Albert Toves at telephone number (670) 285-8109 or (670) 532-9497. Items located on Tinian may be inspected by contacting Mr. Gerald Crisostomo at telephone number (670) 433-9294.

Auction Locations, Dates, and Times: The auctions will take place at the following locations, dates and times:

Saipan: CPA Maintenance Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on September 1, 2022, beginning at 10:00 AM.

Rota: CPA Maintenance Building, Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport on September 6, 2022, beginning at 10:30 AM.

Tinian: CPA Administration Office, Tinian International Airport on September 9, 2022, beginning at 10:00 AM.

Terms and Conditions: All bidders submitting the highest itemized bid are required to pay 20% down payment on acceptance of bid. Balance shall be payable at CPA's Accounting Office located on the 2nd Floor of the Departure Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, within five (5) business days from the date of the Public Auction. Failure to pay will result in the forfeiture of the down payment. Payment must be made in cash, cashier's check, credit card, or money order made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All items are sold “AS IS” and “WHERE IS” and without warranty, guaranty, or representation of any kind, expressed or implied, as to the merchantability or fitness for any purpose of the property offered for sale. Items offered for sale are used and may contain defects not immediately detectable.

All sold properties must be removed from CPA property within five (5) calendar days from date of payment, at owner's expense. CPA will not be responsible for said property after said specified time. The Buyer will make all arrangements and perform all work necessary, including packing, loading, and transportation of the property. No assistance will be provided. Upon removal of the property, all sales are final.

Any claim for misdescription of the purchased item must be made prior to removal of the property. If CPA confirms that the property does not conform to the description, CPA will keep the property and refund any money paid. The liability of CPA shall not exceed the actual purchase price of the property.

CPA reserves the right to reject any and all bids submitted for any reason set forth in this Public Auction Notice or as set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations, including bid rejection or cancellation prior to and at the Public Auction.

CPA assumes no liability for any costs incurred by bidders in their preparation of the bids. Inquiries may be directed to the CPA Comptroller, Skye Hofschneider, via email at skye.hofschneider@cnmiports.com.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director



NMPASI

NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

NMPASI hereby seeks comments and/or suggestions from the community on how to improve upon its proposed Statement of Goals & Priorities for fiscal year 2023 as follows:

NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC. (NMPASI) STATEMENT OF GOALS AND PRIORITIES (FY 2023)

[CLIENT / COMMUNITY SERVICES]

GOAL 1: To provide legally-based advocacy services on behalf of individuals with disabilities and their families in the CNMI.

Priority 1.1: Facilitate appropriate advocacy and provide direct representation for eligible individuals with disabilities in the community (at least one more than the previous fiscal year).

Priority 1.2: Facilitate sufficient technical assistance to individuals with disabilities, family members of individuals with disabilities and other members of the general community at large.

Priority 1.3: Facilitate appropriate representation for un/underserved individuals with disabilities (including but not limited to those living in institutions or other housing facilities)

GOAL 2: To advance the understanding of and appreciation for Protection & Advocacy services and disability-related issues in the CNMI.

Priority 2.1: Facilitate opportunities for the community to engage in learning about disability-related issues.

Priority 2.2: Promote the understanding of local and federal disability laws.

Priority 2.3: Foster local capacity in self-advocacy for individuals with disabilities.

[ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS]

GOAL 3: To enhance the quality of protection & advocacy services and the efficiency of the organization's operations.

Priority 3.1: Maintain an efficient, effective and legally-compliant administrative operation.

Priority 3.2: Maintain an effective, diverse and knowledgeable staff and board of directors.

Priority 3.3: Ensure sufficient and sustainable funding in support of organization's mission.

For anything further, please feel free to contact the NMPASI Office at (670) 235-7273/4 [tel.] / 235-7275 [fax] / 287-0652 [text message] or contact us on-line at www.nmpasi.org.

*NMPASI, a local non-profit organization, administers grant funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD), and the Human Resources Services Administration (HRSA), the U.S. Department of Education (DOE)/Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), and the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Infrastructure and Recovery Program Projects

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



CNMI Youth Affairs Governor's Summer Youth Employment Program—Office of the Governor's Infrastructure and Recovery Program hosted four high school interns sponsored by the CNMI Youth Affairs Office. Heather Christopher, Hillary Christopher, Michilee Oani and Jovinia Moses were assigned duty stations in the four areas of IRP: Administrative, Engineering, Biology, and Archaeology.



Jay Camacho, the IRP Wildlife technician, recognizes the call of a local bird and writes down GPS coordinates during a Wildlife Survey for the CUC Afetnas Waterline replacement project. ▲

▼ Northern Marianas Housing Corp.-Department of Public Works Apengagh and Ghillis Street Road and Drainage Improvement Project.



Project liaison Deveney Dela Cruz attended a CNMI/DOD-hosted Technical Working Group discussion for proposed military activities in the Tinian Military Leased Area as part of the Commonwealth Joint Military Training which will undergo an Environmental Impact Study.



IRP inspector Keith Kintol assisted CUC inspectors to monitor project contractor Primtek's progress.



IRP lead biologist Randy Teal conducts Threatened and Endangered Species Survey for the CUC Afetnas Waterline Replacement Project site last Aug. 30, 2022.



IRP inspectors monitored the installation phase of the project by project contractor, Yantze Corp.



IRP inspectors Keith Kintol and Joey Agulto monitored the placement of the wash aggregate by the contractor to ensure the project met with specifications and proper water flow.



NMHC-DPW Apengagh and Ghillis Street Road and Drainage Improvement Project. IRP inspection report photo of contractor, Yantze, continuing the wooden ply-formwork by constructing a piece that will be placed on top of the catch basin structure to meet the ground surface level.



Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Pau Pau Beach Waterline Replacement Project

NMC students grow appreciation for corals at UOG Marine Lab

The University of Guam Marine Lab hosted two Northern Marianas College students the week of Aug. 15 for an internship related to ongoing research on corals from their home island chain of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Marine Lab graduate research assistant Mikay Reuter guided Richelle Ramon, a junior liberal arts major, and Subin Cho, a sophomore natural resource management major, in conducting a heat-stress experiment on different types of corals. The experiment was a replication of one that Marine Lab Associate Professor David Combosch and his research team are conducting on coral samples from the northernmost Mariana Islands of Sarigan, Pagan, and Maug to predict how they might respond to warming ocean temperatures.

UOG spoke with the NMC students to get their takeaways and perspectives after having worked hands-on with corals and with researchers who share their passion for the ocean.



From left, University of Guam associate professor David Combosch; Northern Marianas College interns Subin Cho and Richelle Ramon; Héctor Torrado, postdoctoral researcher; and Mikay Reuter, graduate research assistant.



Northern Marianas College intern Richelle Ramon and UOG graduate assistant Mikay Reuter conduct a heat-stress experiment in August 2022 in the Island Evolution Lab at UOG's Marine Lab.

What was particularly memorable from your internship experience?

Richelle: Meeting new people was definitely a great part of this internship. We met great people from other countries who are intelligent and inspiring. Interacting with these guys helped me think a lot more about what I want to continue doing for myself school-wise and to prepare myself for the [...] goals that I'd want to accomplish. I aspire to gain their enthusiasm, dedication, and determination

when it comes to education.

Subin: Something that I learned that was memorable during my internship was the relationship that corals share with other organisms in the ocean. It was an eye-opener to see how different species and organisms create relationships with each other in order to thrive and survive.

I [also] learned that pursuing a career in the environment requires time and hard work, which was meaningful and inspirational to me. It was a great

experience and opportunity to meet different people from all around the world who shared the same purpose, which is to save our ocean!

Did your internship change your perspective in any way on coral reefs in the Marianas?

Richelle: I've always heard that there are more corals in the Mariana Islands than there are on Guam due to many reasons, whether it be local stressors, overfishing, etc. There are a lot of coastal developments

in Guam. [...] Even on Saipan, we go through similar occurrences when it comes down to local stressors, coral bleaching, overfishing, etc. [...] I believe that it honestly all comes down to the help of the community in sustainable practices and such to protect our natural resources.

Subin: I would definitely say that this internship did change my perspective about the coral reefs in the Marianas. Growing up on an island that is surrounded by water, we

tend to take it for granted. We pollute, neglect, and overlook our coral reefs and believe that many years after, it will still be there. However, after this internship, I learned that these things we are so used to will soon disappear if changes are not made.

using something that is based on the marine environment.

Do you hope to have an eventual career involving coral reefs or the marine environment?

Richelle: I sure hope so! I always get asked what I want to pursue or study. My answer has always been marine biology. I feel that this Guam trip helped me a little more to decide what I really want to pursue. [...] I'm definitely working toward pur-

Subin: Yes! I can confidently say that I plan to pursue a marine-related field in the future. After graduating and getting work experience in Saipan, I plan to attend the University of Guam for my undergraduate degree in integrative biology and continue my education from there. I love learning about corals, fish, and everything about the ocean. Being an intern and spending time with the students and staff gave me a whole different outlook on marine-related sciences and also was such an inspiration to see how dedicated and passionate everyone was. (UOG)

Aumua Amata unopposed for reelection

PAGO PAGO,

American Samoa—Upon being advised Friday by the American Samoa Election Office that she has qualified to be on the ballot for Congress in the November 8 general election and that she will be unopposed, Congresswoman Amata Coleman Radewagen made the following statement:

"I am humbled by the announcement from the ASG Election Office that the deadline has closed and I will be unopposed for re-election in November. I have given my heart and soul to our people for the past eight years and will look forward to serving as your Member of the U.S. House of Representatives for the next two years. As always, I pledge to make sure that all legislation under consideration by Congress applies to Ameri-



Amata

can Samoa when it benefits our people and excludes us when it does not. And as a wise old retired congressman told me when I first joined the House in 2015: 'My job is to convince 440 other Members of Congress that my district is the most important.' A tall order to be sure and I am thankful that our people have shown confidence in me to continue to make our case in Washington. I have been invited to attend the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders in Honolulu coming up soon, and will return to our islands thereafter to visit the villages in the weeks before the election to answer questions and hear from the people how I can best represent them over the next two years. I want to take this opportunity to thank my congressional staff for all the hard work they do to meet

our needs and my supporters for taking our message to the people. God Bless you and God bless American Samoa!"

This year marks the 14th time Congresswoman Amata's name has been on the ballot and a 15th time she has received votes for the office she now holds. She was unsuccessful in her first ten tries but succeeded in 2014 and has seen her vote totals steadily rise since that time to the point this year that she is unopposed. Over the past four elections she has defeated among others a 13-term incumbent, a former two-term governor and senior members of two governors' cabinets. In 2020 she gained the distinction of winning more votes than any other candidate for any office in American Samoa history. When she takes office in January, she can be expected to hold leadership positions no matter which party is in the majority including her role as co-chair of the Congressional Pacific Islands Caucus. (PR)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Dina Ubaldo Regua | FCD-DI
Petitioner, | CIVIL ACTION
 | NO. 22-0274
vs. |
 | SUMMONS FOR
Julian R. Bagsit Jr. | PUBLICATION
Respondent. |

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 8186 SVRB Saipan MP 96950 as soon as practical after filling your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgment by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 12th day of August 2022.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:	Opening Date	Closing Date
2022-029	CDBG-DR Receptionist (1-Position)	UNGRADED \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00 Per annum	Aug. 31, 2022	Sept. 15, 2022 4:00pm
2022-030	CDBG-DR Construction Inspector (3-Positions)	UNGRADED \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00 Per annum	Aug. 31, 2022	Sept. 15, 2022 4:00pm
2022-031	CDBG-DR Compliance Specialists (3-Positions)	UNGRADED \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00 Per annum	Aug. 31, 2022	Sept. 15, 2022 4:00pm

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information can be accessed at www.nmhcgov.net and www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; the CDBG-DR Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Ladera Building, Chalan Lamlau, Beach Road; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhcgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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EDITORIAL

The end of the end of the 20th century



Some would say the 20th century ended at Y2K—midnight on Jan. 1, 2000. Others would say that, as a historical phenomenon, it extended until the shock of Sept. 11, 2001. And others still might cite the Great Recession or even the election of Donald Trump as the real end of the long 20th century.

Whichever one you subscribe to, Aug. 30, 2022, should be considered the end of the end—the death of the last personal link to the defining world conflict of the latter half of the 20th century. It is the day Mikhail Gorbachev, the last premier of the Soviet Union, died in Moscow. He was 91.

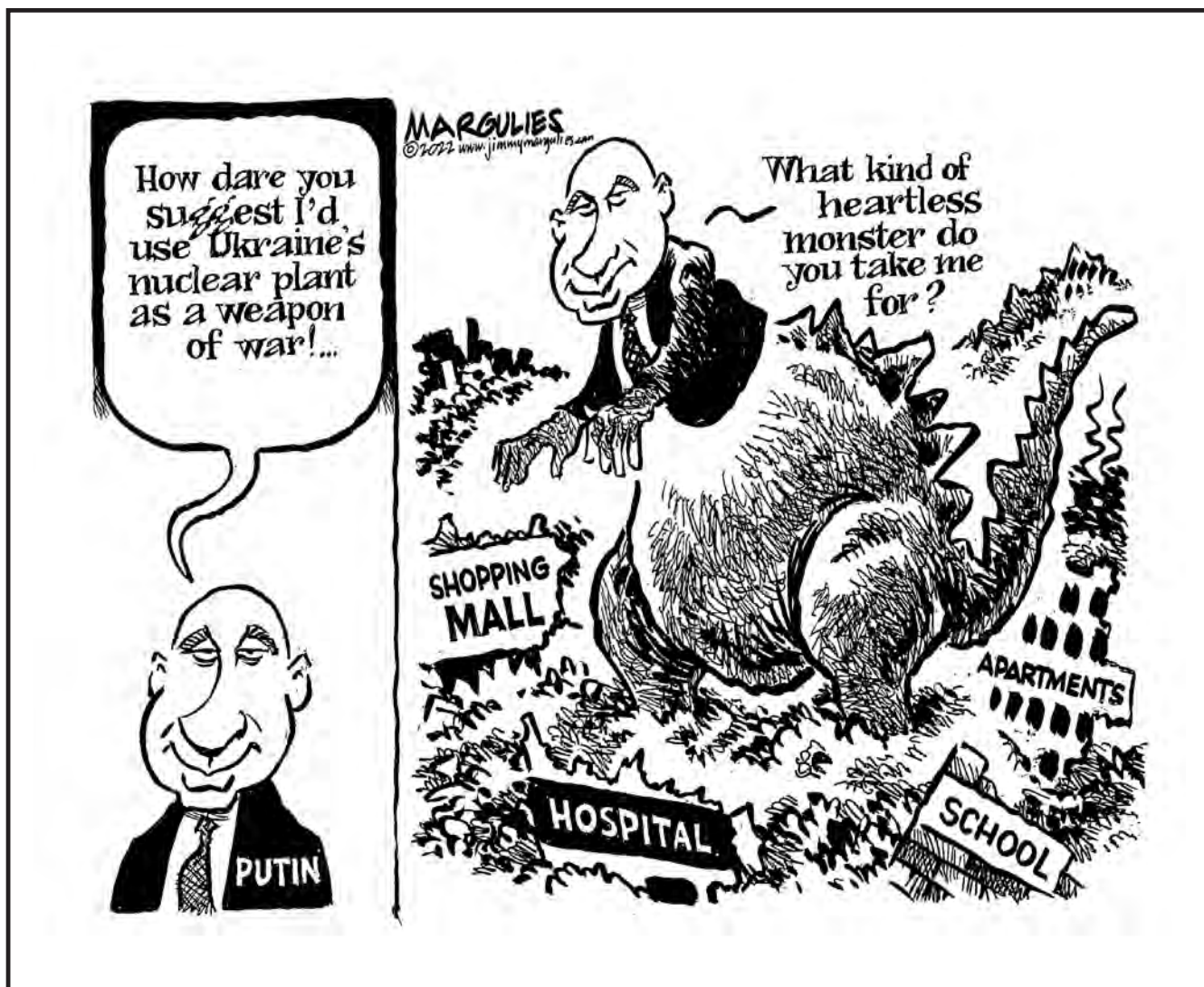
Gorbachev's legacy is one of the most complicated and contested in recent history. Was it his bold initiative or Ronald Reagan's assertiveness that really brought the Cold War to a close, or both? Was he another in a long line of brutal Soviet dictators, an authoritarian who tried to save the Soviet system by liberalizing it and lost control, or a committed democrat who admired the West and desired to align Russia with Western values?

Was he a figure of great moral strength whose openness made ending the Cold War possible, as he is largely seen in America? Or was he a weak and feckless leader who unnecessarily dismantled one of the world's great superpowers, as he is largely seen in Russia?

The Russian answer to the last question has a very real current effect. Vladimir Putin's bid to rebuild a greater Russian empire in Ukraine is an attempt to recover for Russia what Gorbachev lost more than three decades ago. It is also Putin's attempt to cast himself as the anti-Gorbachev.

Putin the anti-Gorbachev repudiates his Soviet predecessor in one particular way that endangers the world: He has closed himself off from his adversaries. Perhaps the most extraordinary aspect of the end of the Cold War was the genuine, world-shaping warmth that developed between

See 20th on Next Page



Eradicating the 'forever' from 'forever chemicals'

You might not have heard of "forever chemicals," but you've certainly been exposed to them. This large family of molecules can be found in everything from the wrapper on your take-out burger to the stain-resistant fabric on your couch. You might unwittingly encounter them when you floss your teeth, apply your mascara, or fry an egg in your nonstick pan.

Known to scientists as PFAS (shorthand for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances), these pervasive chemicals can linger for many years in soil and water—and in our bodies, where they have been linked to a range of diseases. They've been found in the drinking water in many parts of the U.S., particularly areas near chemical plants that currently or previously made them. So much of this stuff is out there that researchers recently detected unsafe levels in rainwater.

Now, there might be a way to strike the "forever" from those chemicals. Scientists at Northwestern University have come up with a simple and cheap method of breaking down some of these molecules into benign parts. That feat, and, more realistically, others it might inspire, has the potential to play a critical role in the massive and costly effort to eradicate these chemicals from the environment. The discovery is far from an immediate solution to the world's PFAS problem. But it arrives at a time when the U.S. is starting to put real money into efforts to pull these contaminants out of the water supply, which would create a lot of PFAS waste with nowhere good to go.

Forever chemicals exist to add durability during manufacturing and enable consumer-friendly features like water- and grease-resistance. The problem is that the carbon-fluorine bonds that endow these qualities also make these chemicals annoyingly stable. Getting rid of them is a massive and expensive headache. One community in North Carolina spent some \$50 million to upgrade its water treatment plant to filter out PFAS each year and is on the hook for several million more dollars to change the filter and get rid of the chemicals it captured.

Northwestern professor William Dichtel is one of many scientists working on methods to pull these chemicals out of water. But a question has always lingered, he said. "What do you do with the PFAS after you've removed them from contaminated water?" Prying apart those carbon-fluorine bonds currently requires brute force—think energy-intensive measures like incineration at extreme temperatures. And even that doesn't always break everything down.

The team from Northwestern team struck upon a simple alter-

By **LISA JARVIS**
Bloomberg Opinion

Lisa Jarvis is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering biotech, health care and the pharmaceutical industry. Previously, she was executive editor of Chemical & Engineering News.



native. Certain types of PFAS (ones featuring carboxylic acids) can be dissolved in mild conditions using just water, a widely used solvent called DMSO, and sodium hydroxide. What's left in the end is benign. The lab also partnered with scientists at other universities to do a deep dive into how these chemicals fall apart. Those details may not seem as exciting as an easy recipe for PFAS destruction but are just as important in that they help inform future research.

Such efforts will be needed. The Northwestern team's findings have not been proven on an industrial scale. DMSO, for example, is not typically used at an industrial scale. The reaction also only works on some kinds of PFAS, so other approaches need to be explored.

Progress in addressing those questions is urgently needed. A lot of forever chemicals could soon be pulled out of our water. The Biden administration's infrastructure bill included \$1 billion to address PFAS contamination as part of an overall \$5 billion commitment, with a particular focus on aiding remediation efforts in small or disadvantaged communities.

As part of the plan, the Environmental Protection Agency proposed lowering the acceptable level in drinking water to practically zero for two older chemicals (PFOA and PFOS), and issued a health advisory for two others. Last week, the agency proposed adding PFOA and PFOS to its list of hazardous substances, a move that could put some of the clean-up cost back on the chemical companies.

Companies keep churning out forever chemicals, and consumers keep buying products made more convenient because of them. Unfortunately, that cycle doesn't seem to be changing any time soon. And although the Northwestern team's discovery won't fix the world's PFAS problems anytime soon, it could help with the clean-up and inspire other inventions that bring safer drinking water closer to reality.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Airline meltdowns are the canary in the coal mine

By **MATT SIGELMAN** and **KEN MEHLMAN**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

For would-be vacationers, this has been the summer of our discontent. In the wake of the pandemic, severe staffing shortages have triggered a crush of disruption: Flight cancellations abound while check-in lines snake out the terminal door. Travelers wonder when the chaos will abate.

But what if this isn't just a temporary hiccup? This summer's air travel meltdown could well be the canary in the coal mine for the labor shortages we may soon experience across the economy as boomers retire, population growth slows and training lags. To avoid further shortages, we must rethink how we invest in workers and start planning ahead.

Across sectors, today's problems have been a long time coming. For those who think travel headaches are simply the product of pent-up wanderlust, consider this: According to the labor market analytics firm Lightcast, job openings for pilots have grown 72% since 2016 while the number of pilots at work has grown only 12%, a profound gap that demonstrates just how many jobs are going unfilled.

Similar gaps are apparent across fields. Over the past five years, growth in demand for registered nurses has outpaced growth in supply tenfold, while job openings for electrical engineers have grown three times faster than the available workforce.

Meanwhile, in many fields, a wave of impending retirements threatens to overwhelm the ability of colleges to graduate new talent. For example, even as supply chain disruption widens, twice as many logisticians exit the field annually as earn relevant degrees. Recession may cool demand for a time, but the long-term trend is clear.

Shortages in high-skill roles, such as pilots, are especially hard

to resolve. It takes many years to train a pilot. Early in the pandemic, as air travel came to a standstill, airlines cut almost half of their pilots. Now, as demand for air travel roars back, there isn't a store of qualified pilots waiting on the sidelines and there's no prospect of bringing more to market anytime soon.

Airlines are raising wages dramatically. Two American Airlines affiliates recently announced that they would double pay. That may entice fresh talent to the field, but new pilots won't be flight-ready anytime soon. For now, all airlines can do is compete with one another for those already in the cockpit. That's good for pilots but doesn't clear the shortage.

This same lag between demand and supply plays out across the labor market. Amid surging cyber threats, companies are bulking up on people with the skills to protect data and networks, with job postings up 70% since 2017. But a key qualification for cybersecurity work, Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) certification, requires five years' experience. That's a long time to wait for more workers.

There are two ways to address long lead times: better preparedness on the part of employers and greater responsiveness in the way that colleges and training providers ready new workers.

Employers take up an ages-old "can't find good help these days" complaint but much of the solution to this rising crisis rests with them. Since the 1960s, companies have taken an increasingly transactional approach to labor, hiring and firing at will to match business shifts. That works for firms only so long as workers are widely available and quickly trained. But the kind of highly skilled work that pilots and cybersecurity engineers do comprises a growing share of today's economy.

Employers need a new, longer-term mindset. That means considering the workforce as a relationship, not just a transaction—one that is less disposable and more enduring through ups and

downs. A more invested relationship involves helping workers keep their skills fresh. Investing in skills training is good both for workers and for companies themselves, ensuring that the workforce they have remains the one they need as technologies obsolete at a startling rate.

Companies also need a longer-term mindset in considering future needs. Most plan production schedules and supply chains multiple quarters in advance but have no comparable talent plan, relying instead on the vagaries of the market to deliver skilled workers just in time. Too often they come up short.

But we need not take as given the long time frames currently required to develop new talent. For our workforce to be more agile, training itself must become more responsive. We need to consider ways to make each credential faster and more accessible. Are all current requirements still relevant? Much demand for CISSP certification is driven by federal mandate rather than actual need. Training that builds on workers' existing skills saves time vs. training up from scratch. Airlines such as United and JetBlue have been investing in new training academies to accelerate the path to the cockpit and draw a more diverse pool of pilots.

Labor shortages need not be a permanent reality but avoiding them will take a shift in approach. Good talent, like anything else worthwhile, takes time. New training models can ready new workers more quickly, but there's no dodging the need to plan ahead. From airlines to hospitals, companies that invest in workers for the long haul will steer clear of the turbulence that lies ahead.

Matt Sigelman is president of The Burning Glass Institute, a leading labor market research center, and chairman of Lightcast. Ken Mehlman is a partner at KKR and was the 62nd chairman of the Republican National Committee and a Lightcast board member.

Could a return of the lost workers avert a recession?

There's not much good to say about the U.S. economy today, with out-of-control inflation eroding household incomes and Americans bracing for a recession after gross domestic output shrunk in the first half of 2022. But the labor market is the wildcard.

There are nearly two job openings for every unemployed worker, and half of businesses have job openings they're unable to fill. Since the start of the pandemic, the working-age population (16+ years) has increased by 4.4 million, yet there are 576,000 fewer people employed today.

If the employment-to-population ratio were the same today as it was in February 2020, more than 3 million additional people would have jobs. With that many more people producing goods and services, would it be enough to turn negative GDP growth positive? The relationship between employment and economic output suggests yes.

A popular rule-of-thumb called Okun's law (named after economist Arthur Okun) says that each one-percentage-point decrease in the unemployment rate corresponds to a roughly two-percentage-point increase in the growth rate of real GDP.

Right now, unemployment is low, and GDP growth is nega-

tive. Those two don't usually go hand in hand, but we're in unusual times where demand for goods and services is high, but there aren't enough workers to meet those demands. That suggests that the disappearance of more than 3 million active workers has contributed to the decline in GDP in the first half of 2022 and their re-entry into employment might have prevented that decline.

Suppose all those "missing" workers had never left the labor force but were classified as unemployed. (The official unemployment designation is based on whether a jobless person is looking for work, but the fact remains that they are not contributing to output.) The unemployment rate would have been about 1.9 percentage points higher in the first half of this year. But if those workers found employment among the 11.4 million job openings that existed in the first half of 2022, the unemployment rate would have subsequently declined by about 1.9 percentage points.

That increase in employment (or decrease in the potential unemployment rate) would have meant more output, which gets to the crux of Okun's law relating economic output to the difference between people being productively employed or unproductively unemployed.

Applying a 2-to-1 ratio between output and unemployment, the productive employment of 3.2 million missing workers might have shifted the pace of GDP growth from -1.6% to 2.4% in the first quarter and from -0.9% to 2.9% in the second quarter.

That seems like a big jump, but the recovery from COVID-19 was supposed to be strong and longer-lasting. In January 2021, Moody's estimated that GDP growth would be 8% in 2021 and 4% in 2022. Instead, it was 5.7% in 2021 and negative so far in 2022.

And it's not for a lack of demand. Canceled flights, delayed deliveries, unopened community pools, over-crowded emergency rooms, missing bus drivers and teachers, reduced public safety, shortages of goods and services, rising prices, and all the extra human resources needed to find and retrain new workers (instead of directly producing goods and services) demonstrate how missing workers have meant less output.

By **RACHEL GRESZLER**
The Heritage Foundation

Rachel Greszler is a senior research fellow specializing in retirement and labor policy at The Heritage Foundation's Hermann Center for the Federal Budget.



Could a reversal of the decline in work spare the U.S. a recession?

Theoretically, yes. But it's not possible for millions of people to immediately jump back into the workforce and into productive jobs. A gradual reentry could absolutely minimize economic decline, but the necessary ingredients for a strong workforce have drastically deteriorated.

For starters, welfare-without-work benefits and school lockdowns were a major setback for young peoples' work and income prospects. Individuals between the ages of 20 and 24 have experienced larger employment declines than any other age group besides those 65 and older. And at the same time, their college enrollment plummeted over 9%.

Policymakers could help increase employment among young workers by expanding alternative education options—including reviving Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Programs—and by making welfare work-oriented.

And to help increase employment among older workers, policymakers should protect flexible, independent work opportunities that allow people to be their own bosses. They also should eliminate Social Security's retirement earnings test, which discourages older Americans from working.

Current policies to spend more, tax more, regulate more, and produce less will only make labor shortages and inflation worse. But it's not too late for policymakers to minimize the severity of the current economic downturn by removing government-imposed barriers to work and by getting the federal government's fiscal house in order.

SENATOR

From Page 8

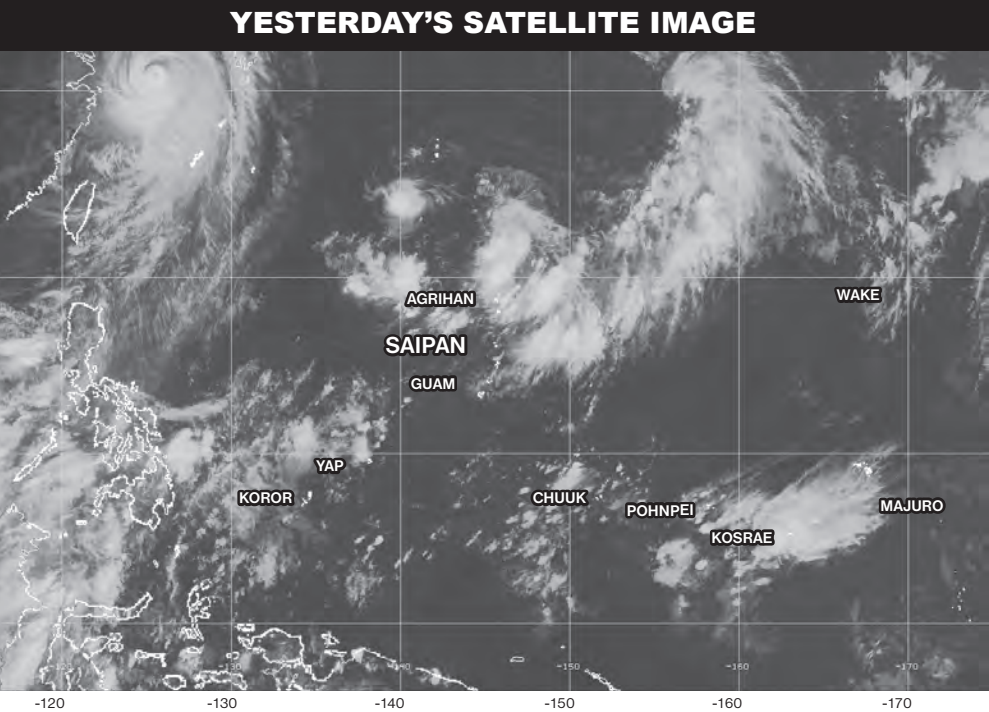
Gorbachev and his American counterpart, Ronald Reagan.

Their friendship showed that personal trust could overcome decades of mutual suspicion. It showed that two people could disagree profoundly, and even have wildly disparate interests and agendas, and still get along well enough to seek common ground and mutually agreeable solutions to tremendous problems.

It's a kind of trust and maturity that's in short supply in American politics today. Whether Mikhail Gorbachev was a tyrant who failed or a tyrant who changed, that's one aspect of his legacy we need desperately to learn from.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny	
87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°



PICTURE TIME: 7:50 AM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas Waters. Satellite shows scattered showers just north of the Saipan Waters. The buoys reveal combined seas of 4 to 6 feet which are composed of a west-northwest swell from distant Typhoon Hinnamnor and an east-northeast trade-wind swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▲ ▼ °F		
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 76°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 76°
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:25 PM
Wednesday	6:05 AM	6:25 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:21 AM	3:00 PM
Wednesday	-	2:26 AM	4:00 PM
Thursday	-	3:31 AM	4:54 PM
Friday	-	4:36 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	-	5:36 AM	6:28 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE ▲ ▼ °F		
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	54° / 42°
Beijing	Sunny	87° / 59°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	91° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 76°
London	Rain	69° / 60°
Los Angeles	Sunny	96° / 73°
Manila	Thunderstorms	89° / 78°
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	63° / 45°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	89° / 81°
New York	Showers	83° / 71°
Osaka	Showers	93° / 77°
Paris	Light Rain	82° / 60°
Busan	Rain/Wind	80° / 65°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	89° / 67°
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 70°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	81° / 58°
Seoul	Rain	79° / 61°
Tokyo	Cloudy	88° / 78°
Washington, DC	Showers	86° / 71°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
2:02 AM	Low Tide	1.82
9:58 AM	High Tide	-0.12
5:44 PM	Low Tide	1.87
10:47 PM	High Tide	1.41

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 1, 2022							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
UA156	6:30PM	7:15PM	6	UA112	4:40PM	5:30PM	6
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	Daily	PR110	10:00PM	4:00AM+1	Daily
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	5 via Palau
				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1,2,3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Palau, Guam
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW9308	3:30PM	7:20PM	Daily	7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6	7C3406	8:50AM	2:50PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6	TW9307	9:15AM	2:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:00PM	6:20PM	3, 7	7C3452	9:00AM	2:00PM	3, 7
BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7	BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T*Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS						
INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022						
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
7:00 A.M.	7:15 A.M.	(Except Sundays)	7:35 A.M.	7:50 A.M.	(Except Sundays)	
9:50 A.M.	10:05 A.M.		10:25 A.M.	10:40 A.M.		
4:00 P.M.	4:15 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)	4:35 P.M.	4:50 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)	
SAIPAN TO ROTA			ROTA TO SAIPAN			
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
8:10 A.M.	8:40 A.M.		9:00 A.M.	9:30 A.M.		
1:45 P.M.	2:15 P.M.		2:35 P.M.	3:05 P.M.		
SAIPAN TO GUAM			GUAM TO SAIPAN			
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
11:10 A.M.	12:00 P.M.		12:30 P.M.	1:20 P.M.		
5:15 P.M.	6:05 P.M.		6:40 P.M.	7:30 P.M.		

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
3103	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

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Business

Americans splurge on beauty, despite pullbacks elsewhere

By HALELUYA HADERO and
ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP BUSINESS WRITERS

NEW YORK (AP)—Like many Americans, Karla Maldonado has been cutting back her spending to spare her wallet from rising costs: She is eating out less and attending fewer social events to curb the impact of high gas prices.

But the 26-year-old social worker of Portland, Oregon, hasn't skimped on her eye makeup—the mascara, eyeliner and eyeshadow she typically wears to work just above her face mask.

“That’s something I can’t go without,” Maldonado said. And she doesn’t seem to be alone.

Many major retailers slashed their financial outlooks for the year after seeing shoppers pull back on many discretionary items in the latest quarter. But among the notable exceptions: beauty.

Target, Kohl’s, Macy’s and Nordstrom all highlighted



This photo provided by Target shows the Ulta Beauty inside Target department store in Edina, Minn., on Aug. 14, 2021. AP

strong sales of beauty items in their fiscal second-quarter

earnings reports issued over the past few weeks. Walmart, the nation’s largest retailer, said that it’s seeing increased momentum in its beauty business, citing strong sales in cosmetics as well as skin and hair businesses. Meanwhile, Ulta Beauty, the largest beauty retailer in the country, said overall sales spiked nearly

17% in its most recent quarter, compared to the same period last year.

Americans, once stuck behind Zoom screens in the thick of the pandemic, are out and about and wanting to look their best. Co-workers—some of whom are meeting each other for the first time—are trying to make an im-

pression. Meanwhile, people are going out on dates and getting together for summer parties and barbecues after months of pandemic-induced leisurewear and Netflix binges at home.

But another possible explanation for why beauty is thriving when consumers are more apprehensive about

their spending is a long-held theory known as the “lipstick index,” which posits that lipstick sales rise during times of economic downturn.

The reasoning goes: When consumer sentiment declines, Americans seek escapism by looking for small ways to indulge themselves, such as by purchasing a new lipstick instead of pricier alternatives they can no longer afford. For others, their version of lipstick might be cheap beer or a \$5 Caramel Macchiato from Starbucks, which reported record revenue in August for its fiscal third quarter.

The lipstick theory has held, though not always. Makeup sales spiked during the Great Depression and the recession in the early 2000s. But sales declined during the 2008 economic collapse, according to market research firm NPD Group. The same happened during the early days of the pandemic as Americans stayed home—or behind masks—and shifted their interests towards wellness and skincare as stimulus payments flooded bank accounts, helping balloon the savings of consumers who were already spending less on traveling or eating out due to pandemic lockdowns.

Energy problems in Ukraine and Europe take center stage

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Energy problems plagued Ukraine and Europe as much of the Russian-occupied region that’s home to a largely crippled nuclear power plant was reported temporarily in blackout Sunday.

Only one of six reactors at the Zaporizhzhia facility was connected to the electricity grid, and Russia’s main pipeline carrying natural gas to Germany remained shut down.

The fighting in Ukraine and related disputes over pipelines lie behind the electricity and natural gas shortfalls that have worsened as Russia’s war in Ukraine, which began on Feb. 24, grinds on for a seventh month.

Both issues will take center stage this week. U.N. nuclear agency inspectors are scheduled to brief the Security Council on Tuesday about their inspection and safeguard visit to the Zaporizhzhia power plant. European Union energy ministers were slated to hold an emergency meeting Friday in Brussels to discuss the bloc’s electricity market, which European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has said “is no longer operating.”

Much of the Zaporizhzhia region, including the key city of

Melitopol, lost power Sunday.

But electricity was gradually being restored, said Vladimir Rogov, the head of the Russia-installed local administration in Enerhodar, the city where the nuclear power plant is located. To the southwest, power was also out in several parts of the port city of Kherson, according to Russia’s Tass news agency. Rogov blamed the outages in both locations on damage to high-voltage power lines.

While Rogov said no new shelling of the area around the six-reactor Zaporizhzhia plant was reported Sunday, the effects of earlier strikes lingered.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said Saturday that the plant was disconnected from its last main external power line and one reactor was disconnected because of grid restrictions. Another reactor was still operating and producing electricity for cooling and other essential safety functions at the site, as well as externally for households, factories and others through a reserve power line, the IAEA said.

Russian forces have held the Zaporizhzhia facility, Europe’s largest nuclear plant, since early March, with its Ukrainian staff continuing to operate it.

Some states could tax Biden’s student loan debt relief

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—President Joe Biden’s student loan forgiveness plan could lift crushing debt burdens from millions of borrowers, but the tax man may demand a cut of the relief in some states.

That’s because some states tax forgiven debt as income, which means borrowers who are still paying down student loans could owe taxes on

as much as \$10,000 or even \$20,000 that was taken off their bill. In Mississippi, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Arkansas and North Carolina, forgiven student loans will be subject to state income taxes unless they change their laws to conform with a federal tax exemption for student loans, according to a tally by the Tax Foundation, a Washington, D.C.-based

think tank.

That dismays Cathy Newman, a Louisiana State University graduate who just took a job teaching freshman biology at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. She figures she could end up owing a few hundred dollars of money that she could have kept had she stayed in Louisiana.

Newman said she can come

up with the cash because she has a good job, but she knows of a lot of other borrowers who will still be stuck in difficult financial positions even with their loans forgiven.

“If they stay in the state, they could end up with a pretty hefty tax burden if things don’t change,” Newman said. “I won’t be happy if I have to do it. I can do it. But a lot of people can’t.”

17 states weigh adopting California’s electric car mandate

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Seventeen states with vehicle emission standards tied to rules established in California face weighty decisions on whether to follow that state’s strictest-in-the-nation new rules that require all new cars, pickups and SUVs to be electric or hydrogen powered by 2035.

Under the Clean Air Act, states must abide by the federal government’s standard vehicle emissions standards unless they at least partially opt to follow California’s stricter requirements.

Among them, Washington, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon and Vermont are expected to adopt California’s ban on new gasoline-fueled vehicles. Colorado and Pennsylvania are



A Chevrolet Volt hybrid car is seen charging at a ChargePoint charging station at a parking garage in Los Angeles, Oct. 17, 2018. AP

among the states that probably won’t. The legal ground is a bit murkier in Minnesota, where the state’s “Clean Cars” rule has been a political minefield and the subject of a legal fight. Meanwhile, Republicans are rebelling in Virginia.

The Minnesota Auto Dealers Association says its reading of state and federal law is that the new California rules kick in automatically in the state, and it’s making that case in court as it tries to block them.

“The technology is such that

the vehicles just don’t perform that well in cold weather,” said Scott Lambert, the trade group’s president. “We don’t all live in southern California.”

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency officials say the state would have to launch an entirely new rulemaking process to adopt California’s changes. And in court filings and legislative hearings, they’ve said they are not planning to do that now.

“We are not California. Minnesota has its own plan,” Gov. Tim Walz said in a statement. He called Minnesota’s program “a smart way to increase, rather than decrease, options for consumers. Our priority is to lower costs and increase choices so Minnesotans can drive whatever vehicle suits them.”

Nation

1 dead, 9 missing after floatplane crashes in Puget Sound

LANGLEY, Wash. (AP)—One person was killed and nine people remained missing, including a child, after a floatplane crashed Sunday afternoon in Puget Sound in Washington state, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

The agency said in a press release the plane was flying from Friday Harbor, a popular tourist destination in the San Juan Islands, to Renton, a

southern suburb of Seattle.

Four Coast Guard vessels, a rescue helicopter and an aircraft were involved in the extensive search, along with nearby rescue and law enforcement agencies.

The crash was reported at 3:11 p.m. The Coast Guard said one body had been recovered and nine people were still missing as of around 9 p.m. The cause of the crash is un-

known, authorities said.

The plane went down in Mutiny Bay off Whidbey Island, roughly 30 miles (50 kilometers) northwest of downtown Seattle and about halfway between Friday Harbor and Renton.

The National Transportation Safety Board said the plane was a de Havilland DHC-3 Otter, a single-engine propeller plane.

Floatplanes, which have pontoons allowing them to land on water, are a common sight around Puget Sound, an inlet of the Pacific Ocean. There are multiple, daily flights between the Seattle area and the San Juan Islands, a scenic archipelago northwest of Seattle that draws tourists from around the world.

These aircraft, which also fly between Seattle and Van-

couver, British Columbia, frequently travel over Seattle and land in Lake Washington, not far from the city's iconic Space Needle.

Renton, where authorities say the flight was headed Sunday, is at the southern tip of Lake Washington, about 10 miles (16 kilometers) south-

east of Seattle.

In 2019, a midair crash in Alaska between two sightseeing planes killed six people. The Ketchikan-based floatplanes were carrying passengers from the same cruise ship, the Royal Princess, and were returning from tours of Misty Fjords National Monument.

Memphis police: Man charged with kidnapping missing jogger

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—A man has been charged with kidnapping in the disappearance of a Tennessee woman who was out jogging last week when she was accosted and forced into an SUV, police said Sunday.

While Eliza Fletcher has not been found, Memphis police said in an arrest affidavit they have evidence that leads them to believe she was seriously injured in the abduction near the University of Memphis campus. Authorities have said they have surveillance video of the abduction.

U.S. Marshals arrested 38-year-old Cleotha Abston on Saturday after police found

his DNA on a pair of sandals found near where Fletcher was last seen, according to the affidavit. Police also linked the vehicle they believe Fletcher was forced into to a person living at a residence where Abston was staying.

Abston attempted to flee when U.S. Marshals arrived at that residence but was captured, according to the affidavit. Memphis police said early Sunday morning he was charged with especially aggravated kidnapping and tampering with evidence. They said that the in-



Fletcher

vestigation continues.

Online court records do not show if Abston has a lawyer who can comment on his behalf. An arraignment has been set for Tuesday.

A second person was also arrested but apparently on an unrelated offense since police said they didn't believe that person was connected to the abduction.

Authorities have said Fletcher, 34, was jogging around 4 a.m. on Friday when a man approached her and forced her into an SUV after a brief struggle. Fletcher was reported

missing when she did not return home.

Police said a witness reported seeing Abston cleaning the inside of the SUV in question a few hours after the abduction and that he was "behaving oddly."

Fletcher is the granddaughter of the late Joseph Orgill III, a Memphis hardware businessman and philanthropist, according to news outlets. The family has released a video statement asking for help in finding Fletcher and offered a \$50,000 reward for information in the case.

"We believe someone knows what happened, and can help," Fletcher's uncle said in the video.

Chance of California power outages up as heat wave worsens

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—California's chance of power outages will grow in the coming days, as the state prepares to enter the most brutal stretch yet of an ongoing heat wave, officials said Sunday.

Energy demand is expected to outpace supply starting Monday evening, and predictions for Tuesday show the state rivaling its all-time high for electricity demand, said Elliot Mainzer, president and chief executive officer of the California Independent System Operator.

"This is about to get significantly more intense," Mainzer told reporters.

The system operator is in charge of managing and maintaining reliability on the electric grid, a challenging job during hot weather when energy demand soars as people crank up their air conditioners.

Grid managers have several options available before power outages, like tapping backup generators, buying more power from other states and using so-called demand response programs, where people are paid to use less energy. But keeping the lights on will also require Californians to continue conserving as they have been, even as temperatures rise.



A person paddle boards near a boat in McCovey Cove in San Francisco, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2022. AP

Most of California's 39 million people are facing extremely hot weather. Temperatures in the Central Valley are expected to be as high as 115 degrees Fahrenheit (46 degrees Celsius) for several days. In Los Angeles, meanwhile, temperatures topped 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius), unusually warm temperatures for September.

Energy officials and power companies have been urging people since Wednesday to use less power from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

by keeping air conditioners at 78 degrees Fahrenheit (25.5 degrees Celsius) or higher and avoiding using major appliances like ovens and dishwashers. Those so-called flex alerts have allowed the grid operator to keep the lights on so far.

On Saturday night, the state used about 44,000 megawatts of electricity, Mainzer said. By Tuesday, that's supposed to ramp up to more than 50,000 megawatts, nearing record levels of energy use set in 2006.

But the state would rather curb demand to avoid that number than test the power grid's capability to respond.

"Our goal is to make sure that we do not reach that number," Mainzer said.

During the day, California's energy grid runs on a mix of mostly solar and natural gas, as well as some imports of power from other states. But solar power begins to fall off during the late afternoon and into the evening, which is the hottest time of day in some parts of the state.

ACROSS THE NATION

Officials: 2 dead, others wounded in Florida club shooting

PALATKA, Fla. (AP)—Two people were fatally shot and several others injured in a confrontation between groups at a supper club in northeast Florida, officials said Sunday. Palatka Fire Rescue said on Twitter that there was a large response to the shooting reported Saturday night at Vick's Supper Club. "Multiple people shot. Multiple trauma alerts. Multiple Air Medical Helicopters are responding," the agency tweeted. Four people were shot and one person was struck with a blunt object, the Palatka Police Department said in a Facebook post. Two people died of gunshot wounds and three other people were hospitalized. The identities of those killed and injured were not immediately available.

Police: 2 dead, 5 injured in Norfolk, Virginia shooting

NORFOLK, Va. (AP)—Two people were killed and five others were injured by gunfire after a fight broke out at a party in Norfolk, Virginia, police said Sunday. When police responded to a house near Old Dominion University around midnight, they found four women and three men with gunshot wounds, authorities said. "The preliminary investigation reveals that there had been a party at that location that had been advertised on social media," said Michael Goldsmith, the city's interim police chief, at a news conference. "Apparently a fight broke out at the party, and once the fight started then somebody pulled out a gun and started shooting." Zabra Miller, 25, and Angela McKnight, 19, later died at a hospital, police said. "We are continuing the investigation in this," Goldsmith said at the news conference with Mayor Kenneth Alexander, Norfolk City Manager Chip Filer and Norfolk Sheriff Joe Baron. "There were multiple

firearms involved to include a pistol and a long gun."

Sheriff: 2 dead in Northern California wildfire

WEED, Calif. (AP)—Two people have died in a blaze that ripped through a Northern California town, said Siskiyou County Sheriff Jeremiah LaRue. LaRue shared the news of the fatalities Sunday afternoon during a community meeting held at an elementary school north of Weed, the rural Northern California community charred by one of California's latest wildfires. He did not immediately provide names or other details including age or gender of the two people who died. "There's no easy way of putting it," he said before calling for a moment of silence. Both LaRue and other officials acknowledged uncertainties facing the community, such as when people would be allowed back into their homes and power would be restored. About 1,000 people were still under evacuation orders Sunday as firefighters worked to contain the blaze that had sparked out of control Friday at the start of the holiday weekend.

Police: Las Vegas journalist dies in stabbing outside home

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A Las Vegas investigative reporter was stabbed to death outside his home and police are looking for a suspect, authorities said. Las Vegas Metropolitan Police officers found journalist Jeff German, 69, dead with stab wounds around 10:30 a.m. Saturday after authorities received a 911 call, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported. German died of "multiple sharp force injuries" in a homicide, the Clark County Office of the Coroner/Medical Examiner said Sunday. It appears German was in an altercation with another person that led to the stabbing, which is believed to be an isolated incident, police said.

Asia

Military reserves, civil defense worry Taiwan as China looms

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Chris Chen, a former captain in Taiwan's military, spent a lot of time waiting during his weeklong training for reservists in June. Waiting for assembly, waiting for lunch, waiting for training, he said.

The course, part of Taiwan's efforts to deter a Chinese invasion, was jam-packed with 200 reservists to one instructor.

"It just became all listening, there was very little time to actually carry out the instructions," Chen said.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has underscored the importance of mobilizing civilians when under attack, as Ukraine's reserve forces helped fend off the invaders. Nearly halfway around the world, it has highlighted Taiwan's weaknesses on that front, chiefly in two areas: its reserves and civilian defense force.

While an invasion doesn't appear imminent, China's recent large-scale military exercises in response to a visit by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan have made the government in Taipei more aware than ever of the hard power behind Beijing's rhetoric about bringing the self-ruled island under its control.

Experts said that civilian defense and reserve forces have an important deterrent effect, showing a potential aggressor that the risks of invasion are

high. Even before the invasion of Ukraine in March, Taiwan was working on reforming both. The question is whether it will be enough.

Taiwan's reserves are meant to back up its 188,000-person military, which is 90% volunteers and 10% men doing their four months of compulsory military service. On paper, the 2.3 million reservists enable Taiwan to match China's 2 million-strong military.

Yet, the reserve system has long been criticized. Many, like Chen, felt the seven days of training for the mostly former soldiers was a waste of time that did not prepare them well enough.

The number of combat-ready reservists—those who could immediately join front-line battles—is only about 300,000, said Wang Ting-yu, a lawmaker from the governing Democratic Progressive Party who serves on the defense committee in the legislature.

"In Ukraine, if in the first three days of the war it had fallen apart, no matter how strong your military is, you wouldn't have been able to fight the war," Wang said. "A resilient society can meet this challenge. So that when you are met with disasters and war, you will not fall apart."

Taiwan reorganized its reserve system in January, now coordinated by a new body called the All Out Defense Mobilization Agency, which

will also take over the civil defense system in an emergency.

One major change was the pilot launch of a more intensive, two-week training instead of the standard one week, which will eventually be expanded to the 300,000 combat-ready reservists. The remaining reservists can play a more defensive role, such as defending bridges, Wang said.

Dennis Shi joined the revamped training for two weeks in May at an abandoned building site on Taiwan's northern coast. Half the time it was raining, he said. The rest, it was baking hot. The training coincided with the peak of a COVID-19 outbreak. Wearing raincoats and face masks, the reservists dug trenches and practiced firing mortars and marching.

"Your whole body was covered in mud, and even in your boots there was mud," Shi said.

Still, he said he got more firing time than during his mandatory four months of service three years ago and felt motivated because senior officers carried out the drills with them.

"The main thing is when it's time to serve your country, then you have to do it," he said.

There are plans to reform the civil defense force too, said Wang, though much of the discussion has not been widely publicized yet.

should be."

Japanese ophthalmologist Tadashi Hattori, 58, was awarded the prize for training local doctors who have treated thousands of Vietnamese. He decided to become a doctor at age 15 when he witnessed the rude treatment that his cancer-stricken father received in a hospital, the award foundation said.

In a 2002 visit to Vietnam's capital of Hanoi, he was deeply moved when he saw how villagers had become blind because of an acute lack of eye specialists and treatment facilities, and started raising funds, training experts and donating equipment to local hospitals, it said.

"Even just healing one eye may make it possible for someone to attend a school or go back to work," Hattori said. "I can't turn my back on people who are on the verge of losing their sight just because they lack the money to pay for treatment."

World

Stabbings in Canada kill 10, wound 15; suspects at large



This combination of images shown during a press conference at the Royal Canadian Mounted Police "F" Division headquarters in Regina, Saskatchewan, on Sunday, Sept. 4, 2022, shows Damien Sanderson, left, and Myles Sanderson. AP

REGINA, Saskatchewan (AP)—A series of stabbings at an Indigenous community and at another town nearby in Saskatchewan left 10 people dead and 15 wounded, Canadian police said Sunday as they searched across the expansive province for two suspects.

The stabbings took place in multiple locations on the James Smith Cree Nation and in the village of Weldon, northeast of Saskatoon, police said.

Rhonda Blackmore, the Assistant Commissioner of the RCMP in Saskatchewan, said some of the victims appear to have been targeted by the suspects but others ap-

pear to have been attacked at random. She couldn't provide a motive.

"It is horrific what has occurred in our province today," Blackmore said, adding there were 13 crime scenes where either deceased or injured people were found.

It is among the deadliest mass killings in Canadian history. The deadliest gun rampage in Canadian history happened in 2020 when a man disguised as a police officer shot people in their homes and set fires across the province of Nova Scotia, killing 22 people. A man used a van to kill 10 pedestrians in Toronto in 2019. But mass killings are less

common in Canada than in the United States.

Blackmore said police began receiving reports before 6 a.m. of stabbings on the First Nation community. More reports of attacks quickly followed and by midday police issued a warning that a vehicle reportedly carrying the two suspects had been spotted in Regina, about 335 kilometers (208 miles) south of the communities where the stabbings occurred.

Police said the last information they had from the public was that the suspects were sighted there around lunchtime. There have been no sightings since.

WORLD BRIEFS

Berlin police fatally shoot man who killed woman with ax

VIENNA (AP)—A man killed a woman with an ax in the German capital on Sunday morning before being shot dead by police, officials said. Police said that they were called to an apartment in Berlin's Lichtenberg neighborhood shortly before 8 a.m. As they arrived, they saw a man striking a woman with an ax. Officers shot and killed the suspect, according to a police statement. The victim died on the scene of her injuries. As of Sunday afternoon, police were still investigating the crime. They hadn't yet released details on the identities of the suspect or the victim, nor on the motive for the attack.

Reports: 4 feared dead in private jet crash in Baltic Sea

HELSINKI (AP)—Four passengers aboard a private jet traveling from Spain to Germany were feared dead after the plane crashed into the Baltic Sea off Latvia's coast on Sunday, according to Swedish and German media reports. The Cessna Citation 551 jet, which had taken off from the Spanish city of Jerez in the afternoon, disappeared from radar while flying over the Baltic Sea northwest of the Latvian port city of Ventspils, Swedish news agency TT reported. The aircraft, reg-

istered in Austria, was en route to Cologne, Germany. German media said the passengers were a family of three—a man, a woman and their daughter—in addition to the pilot. German newspaper Bild said that the plane had reported shortly after takeoff that there was a problem with pressurization in the cabin. But authorities lost radio contact with the aircraft soon after, and Spanish and French fighter jets were dispatched to intercept the plane.

Glider crashes in Dubai, killing South African pilot

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—A glider crashed near a skydiving company in Dubai on Sunday and its South African pilot was killed, the country's state-run news agency reported, just days after a similar incident. The authorities did not specify the cause of the "amateur glider" crash, or elaborate on where exactly in the city the incident occurred. Dubai is a popular skydiving destination where parachutes can be seen daily over its skyscrapers and beaches. Last Wednesday, a glider hurtled into the parking lot of the country's largest mosque, Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi. The pilot was injured. Authorities are still investigating the "technical malfunction" that led to the crash of that single-engine, fixed-wing aircraft.

Cambodian, Japanese among winners of Magsaysay Awards

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A psychiatrist who helped fellow Cambodians recover from trauma resulting from the Khmer Rouge's genocidal rule and a Japanese ophthalmologist who led an effort to treat thousands of Vietnamese villagers were among those selected for this year's Ramon Magsaysay Awards, regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize.

The other winners were a Filipina pediatrician who has provided medical, legal and social help to thousands of abused children and their families, and a Frenchman who battles plastic pollution in Indonesian rivers.

The annual awards, announced Wednesday, are named after a Philippine president who died in a 1957 plane crash, and honor "greatness of spirit in selfless service to the peoples of Asia." They are to be presented in

Manila on Nov. 30.

The winners "have all challenged the invisible societal lines that cause separation and have drawn innovative and inspiring ones that build connections," said Aurelio Montinola III, chairperson of the award foundation.

Cambodian Sotheara Chhim, 54, has led the treatment of thousands of traumatized survivors of the Khmer Rouge's brutal rule and other patients in his country since becoming executive director of its Transcultural Psychosocial Organization in 2002, the foundation said.

As a child, he was forced to work in Khmer Rouge camps for more than three years until their rule ended in 1979. He became one of Cambodia's first psychiatrists after years of war and devoted his life to treating people, especially in rural communities, where he said "the mental health worker

Overdrive

By MARC D. GRASSO
BOSTON HERALD

Once a legend, always a legend.

Acura, Honda Motor Company's upscale brand, is known for delivering endless consumer satisfaction. For the past decade or so, the Acura ILX was the entry point for the Acura brand, and it sold well for the company, especially among drivers under 35. It brought a lot of new buyers to the brand.

For the 2023 model year, Acura is returning to its roots of "Precision Crafted Perfor-

mance" with the all-new Acura Integra.

I tested the 2023 Acura Integra A-Spec, which starts with the platform that underpins Honda Civic, just like its predecessor. The fifth generation Integra boasts a 1.5-liter turbo engine producing 200 horsepower and 192 pound-feet of torque. My A-Spec came with a six-speed manual transmission with rev matching to keep shifting a breeze, while the automatic transmission option was a continuously variable transmission. What a difference maker this is for

the economy class, a game-changer in fact.

Exterior and interior accouterments show nicely with a rear lift door for tons of trunk space, while granting the most

Once a legend,
always a legend.

rear legroom and cargo volume in its class.

A standard 10.2-inch digital Acura Precision Cockpit instrument cluster with available heads-up display was present on our A-Spec

with the Technology package. The center protruding 9-inch touchscreen infotainment system was very easy to use. The tester also came with the ELS Studio 3D audio

system; when I turned on the SiriusXM radio, it was literally like being at a Fleetwood Mac concert.

Visibility in the Integra is excellent for both the driver and passengers; you can tell

Acura did its homework. Red interior microfiber seat inserts, sports pedals and off-setting color stitching are just a few of the additions with the A-Spec package. With its spacious interior, 12-way power seats and available ambient lighting, comfort is top notch.

In the market these days, a \$30,000 vehicle is almost unheard of, especially when you're looking for an upscale offering. Acura recognized this gap, and the Integra really does a stand-up job of filling it. I cannot think of another

vehicle in this category that offers what the Integra does. In typical Acura form, the 2023 Integra is a homerun.

Readers often press me to identify something amiss in the cars I review. I'm afraid to say that with the Integra A-Spec, not a single thing comes to mind!

NUTS & BOLTS

- MSRP: \$30,800
- As tested: \$36,895
- MPG: 26 city, 36 highway, 30.1 as tested

CHRIS TEDESCO/ACURA/TNS
The 2023 Acura Integra.

The Acura Integra

is back!



How to fix scratches on bumper?

Q: I have some scratches on the bumper of my 2017 BMW 440xi. I'm skeptical of the products I see on social media and commercials. Do you have any suggestions for products that help to hide or cover up bumper scratches?

A: Have you tried duct tape? Not knowing how severe the scratches are but assuming that they are significant, I suggest a new bumper cover. Yes, a bumper cover, not a cover-up. It is the part you see that covers the real bumper assembly underneath. It may cost you around \$500 plus installation.

■■■
Q: Wondering if you could help me with a debate my wife and I have been having since,

well, forever. When our CR-V is parked in the garage, my wife puts on the parking brake. To her credit, she did grow up in Seattle where there are actual hills. However, as a Midwestern boy I don't put the parking brake on unless parked on a hill. Is using the parking brake good for the car or does it really matter?

A: Until the 2017 model year, the Honda CR-V had a parking brake cable. Now, the parking brake is electrically activated. Why does this matter? With lack of use, cables were prone to corrosion and when needed, they may have failed. If they did apply, they may not have released. Regular use kept the parking brake system in work-

ing order. Flatlanders need not use the electric parking brake, but it is still a good habit to do so. Let's call this one a draw.

■■■
Q: I have a 2007 Sebring with about 30,000 miles on it. I keep it garaged in Florida. A couple of times a month a friend of mine starts the vehicle and lets it run about 20 minutes. Due to COVID and my age (88), I have not been able to get down to Florida. Should my friend drive the car when he starts the engine or is it OK to just start it? (The car has not been driven for over a year.)

A: Just like us, your car needs occasional exercise. Starting and idling the engine is like sitting in a rocking

chair. It's fine, but not enough. Let your friend take it out for about 20 minutes or more a couple times a month.

■■■
Q: I have a 2012 Chrysler 300 with an 8-speed automatic transmission. The manual does not recommend a change for the transmission. I now have 110,000 miles on it, and it continues to run great. Should I leave well enough alone, change it, or change and flush it?

A: The transmission fluid is supposed to last the life of the vehicle. Leave it alone. If you must change it, the stuff costs roughly \$50 per gallon.

■■■
Q: You recently responded to a reader stating that his Hyundai steering would resist corrections while traveling.

MOTORMOUTH By BOB WEBER Chicago Tribune



Bob Weber is a writer and mechanic who became an ASE-certified Master Automobile Technician in 1976. He maintains this status by seeking certification every five years. Weber's work appears in professional trade magazines and other consumer publications. His writing also appears in automotive trade publications, Consumer Guide and Consumers Digest. Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60601 or motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.

We had the same experience with our '17 Sonata. I took it to the dealer and was told that this problem related to the lane keeping software. We were told that the best solution is to just shut the cruise control off for a minute or two. We tried this on the

next road trip and found that the dealer was exactly correct! Far less expensive than replacing a rack and pinion.

A: Thanks for passing that along. I am doing the same. However, I wonder why the carmaker has not issued an update to the software.

Ford sales up 27.3% in August; EVs see strong gains

By JORDYN GRZELEWSKI
THE DETROIT NEWS

Ford Motor Co. saw sales gains across much of its U.S. lineup in August, fueling growth of 27.3% over the same month last year and outpacing the automotive industry's performance.

The Dearborn automaker sold 158,088 vehicles in the

U.S. last month, up from 124,176 in August 2021. It saw gains of 13.2%, 47.7% and 307.3%, respectively, across its truck, SUV and electric vehicle segments.

Ford continues to see strong demand, the company said in a news release. It had 76,000 retail orders for model year 2023 vehicles at the end of the month, up 41% from the num-

ber of model year 2022 orders it had a year ago. As the automaker increasingly moves to sell vehicles via orders placed in advance, it reported that for the fifth straight month, more than 50% of its retail sales came from its order bank.

Ford sold 5,897 EVs in August, representing year-over-year growth of more than 307%. Sales of internal com-

bustion engine vehicles, meanwhile, climbed 24.7%. The automaker is aiming to build 600,000 EVs annually by the end of next year, and 2 million annually by 2026.

One of the contributors to the company's EV sales growth is the all-electric F-150 Lightning, which started shipping to customers in April. In August, the F-150 was America's best-selling truck (a title it's held for decades), as well as the coun-

try's best-selling hybrid and battery-electric truck.

The Lightning is turning over at dealerships faster than any other Ford vehicle, selling on average in eight days, Ford reported, and its top three conquests are the Ram pickup and Tesla's Model 3 and Model X. The truck had its best month since launching, with 2,373 sales.

E-Transit, an electric version of Ford's popular Transit cargo van that launched earlier this

year, had sales of 3,938 units through August.

Ford's flagship F-Series pickup lineup sold 58,283 vehicles in August, up 1.7%.

A 268% increase in Bronco sales helped Ford brand SUV sales notch a 50.4% gain over last August.

Gas-powered Mustang sales were up 56.1% in August, while sales of the all-electric Mustang Mach-E were up 115.5% to 3,120 units.

Life & Style

Jane Fonda says she has cancer; is dealing well with chemo

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jane Fonda said on social media Friday that she has cancer.

"So, my dear friends, I have something personal I want to share. I've been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and have started chemo treatments," the 84-year-old actor wrote in an Instagram post.

"This is a very treatable cancer," she added, "so I feel

very lucky."

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma is a cancer that begins in the white blood cells and affects parts of the body's immune system.

Fonda acknowledged that unlike many, she is privileged to have in-



Fonda

surance, and access to the best doctors and care.

"Almost every family in America has had to deal with cancer at one time or another and far too many don't have access to the quality health care I am receiving and this is

not right," she said.

Fonda said she has begun a six-month course of chemotherapy, is handling the treatments well, and will not let it interfere with her climate activism.

Fonda has dealt with cancer before. She had a tumor removed from her breast in 2010, and has also had skin cancer.

Part of a legendary Hollywood family, Fonda gained

fame for both her acting and her activism starting in the late 1960s.

She won Oscars for her performances in 1971's "Klute"

and 1978's "Coming Home."

She has also starred in the films "Barbarella" and "9 to 5," and in the Netflix series "Grace and Frankie."

Brendan Fraser celebrated for comeback role in 'The Whale'

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Brendan Fraser is having a moment at the Venice International Film Festival.

The once ubiquitous movie star of "The Mummy" franchise and "George of the Jungle" had, in the last decade, backed away from the spotlight. But Fraser is charting what could be a major comeback starting with his transformative role in Darren Aronofsky's "The Whale," which had its world premiere Sunday night at the festival.

As the credits rolled in the

Sala Grande theater, the audience gave the film a long standing ovation while Fraser, on the balcony alongside his director and co-stars, wiped tears away.

Fraser plays Charlie, a reclusive English teacher with a kind soul who weighs 600 pounds (270 kilograms). While the film already has pundits predicting Oscar nominations, Fraser is trying not to think about whether awards are in his future.

"I'm just trying to stay in today," Fraser said before the premiere.

Aronofsky has been trying to make "The Whale" for about 10 years. He vividly remembers reading The New York Times review of Samuel D. Hunter's play, going out to see it, and knowing he had to meet the writer.

One line in particular stuck out to him: "People are incapable of not caring." It's why, he said, he had to make the film.



Fraser

But casting presented a challenge.

"To a lot of Sam Hunter's pain, it took me 10 years to make this movie and that's because it took me 10 years to cast," Aronofsky said. "Casting Charlie was a huge challenge. I considered everyone. Every single movie star on the planet. But none of it really clicked. ... It didn't move me. It didn't feel right."

Spidey tops box office while Cinema Day draws millions

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Spider-Man: No Way Home" has swung back on top of the box office during a holiday weekend where American theaters aimed to lure moviegoers with discounted \$3 tickets.

The first "National Cinema Day" nationwide promotion became the highest-attended day of the year, drawing an estimated 8.1 million moviegoers on Saturday, according to The Cinema Foundation. The one-day event — offered on more than 30,000 screens and held in more than 3,000 theaters, including major

chains AMC and Regal Cinemas — collected preliminary box office returns of \$24.3 million, according to data firm Comscore.

National Cinema Day was intended to flood theaters with moviegoers during a Labor Day weekend, which is traditionally one of the slowest weekends in the industry. The promotion looked to prompt people to return in the fall, inspired by a sizzle reel of the upcoming films from major studios including Disney, Lionsgate, Sony and A24.

"This event outstripped

our biggest expectations," said Jackie Brennenman, president of the Cinema Foundation, a nonprofit arm of the National Association of Theater Owners, in a statement. "The idea of the day was to thank moviegoers for an amazing summer, and now we have to thank them for an amazing day."

Some other countries have experimented with a similar day of cheap movie tickets, but Saturday's promotion was the first of its kind on such a large scale in the U.S. Organizers of the National Cinema Day said the

event could become an annual fixture.

"This proves that people love going to the theaters," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for Comscore. "Pricing is always a consideration."

The top three performing movie titles for the day included Tom Cruise's "Top Gun: Maverick," The Rock and Kevin Hart's "DC League of Super Pets" and Brad Pitt's "Bullet Train." Another top draw was "Spider-Man: No Way Home," which recaptured the No. 1 box office spot for

the weekend.

With never-seen footage, the re-release of the Sony and Marvel blockbuster superhero film starring Tom Holland and Zendaya brought in an estimated \$6 million. "Top Gun" followed with \$5.5 million, "Super Pets" garnered \$5.45 million, "Bullet Train" pulled in \$5.4 million and last week's top earner "The Invitation" grossed \$4.7 million to round out the top five.

The re-release of Steven Spielberg's 1975 classic "Jaws," on big screens for the first time in 3D, nabbed the final spot among the weekend's top 10 performers.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "Spider-Man: No Way Home," \$6 million.
2. "Top Gun: Maverick," \$5.5 million.
3. "DC League of Super Pets," \$5.45 million.
4. "Bullet Train," \$5.4 million.
5. "The Invitation," \$4.7 million.
6. "Beast," \$3.6 million.
7. "Minions: The Rise of Gru," \$3.1 million.
8. "Thor: Love and Thunder," \$2.4 million.
9. "Dragon Ball Super: Super Hero," \$2.4 million.
10. "Jaws" (1975), \$2.3 million.

Man bites off more than he can chew with comments

DEAR ABBY: Every year my girlfriend and I take each other out for dinner on our birthdays and bring a gift. This year, even though I am currently experiencing financial hardship, I bought her a gift and offered her dinner.

At the restaurant, she ordered the largest portion of what she wanted. She stated it's what she always orders in that restaurant. I responded that she always takes half of it home, and that I had offered to buy her dinner for that night, not for two days. She got very angry and said I was ruining her birthday.

She then said she'd pay for her own meal. I declined her offer and paid, but now I'm wondering if I was wrong. She did pay for half the appetizer, which I didn't want or eat, and she left the tip. Should I have told her before we went out to dinner that I was on a tighter budget? Can our relationship be saved?

LOSING IN LAS VEGAS

DEAR LOSING: Strong relationships thrive when there is honest communication. You and the Birthday Girl have been seeing each other for an extended period of time. If money is tight, you should have mentioned it long before her birthday rolled around. Yes, she should have been aware of it before you invited her to dinner. Because she wasn't, I can understand why she might have been put off by what she

may have interpreted as a snide comment rather than a cry for help. Can your relationship be saved? Yes, as long as you two REALLY start talking to each other.

◆◆◆◆

DEAR ABBY: I am in my early 40s. I have reconnected with a girl I dated in high school. Things are wonderful. I have come to understand that she was "wronged" by other men more than once in the years in between. But I have also learned it was happening during our relationship as teens. I cannot stop ripping myself in half for not realizing it was happening and doing nothing to stop it. I wasn't damaged; she was.

I am hesitant to do anything that makes her revisit her pain, but it is something I can't let go of. I am not sure how I should proceed in the present, so that I don't let the past damage a future that seems so bright. Could you please give me a woman's point of view?

CAUTIOUS IN MICHIGAN

DEAR CAUTIOUS: Understand that you and this woman were very different people when you dated more than 20 years ago. I suspect my point of view is similar to what you would get from a man: If you plan to proceed with this romance, the two of you should get at least six months of couples counseling from a licensed professional.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

A lot has happened to you both in the intervening years since high school. There was nothing you could do to stop anything that happened. She was a willing participant in those failed relationships. Your future with her will be brighter once you know each other better as adults, which will involve frank communication on both of your parts.

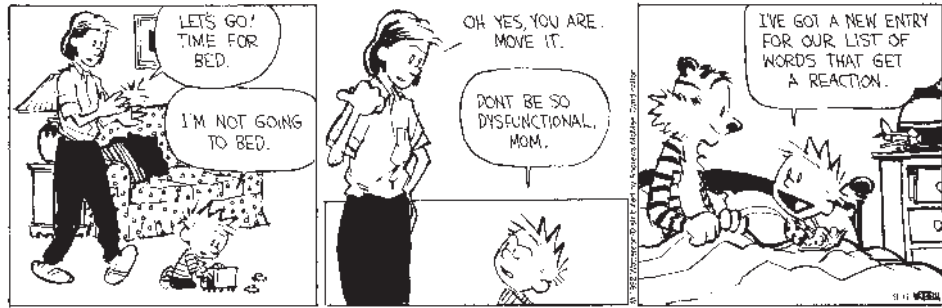
◆◆◆◆

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



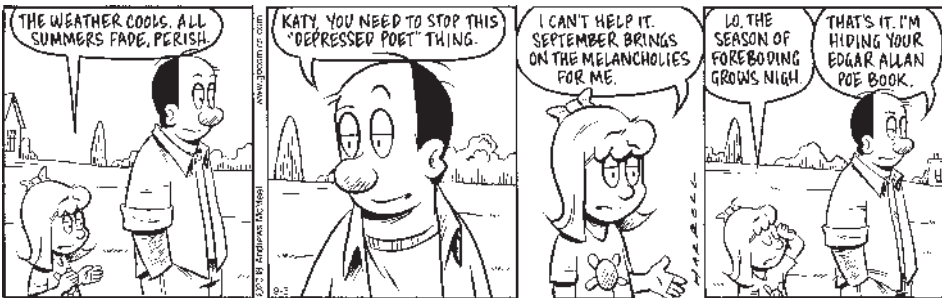
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



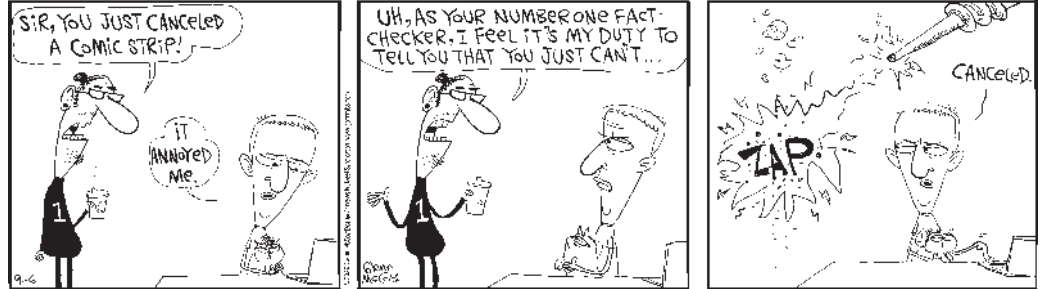
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Wax-coated cheese

5 Jug handle

8 Thinker

12 The Big Easy

13 "No seats" sign

14 Squad

15 French perfume brand

16 Western toppers

18 Treeless plains

20 Thoreau piece

21 Remiss

22 Boxing legend

23 Stupéfies

26 Spy's asset

30 Compass dir.

31 Actress Tyler

32 Tic-tac-toe win

33 Sound systems

DOWN

36 Ridicule

38 Last (Abbr.)

39 Airline to Sweden

40 Ballroom dance

43 First-rate

47 Big name in pianos

49 Architect

50 Memo

51 100%

52 Work on proofs

53 Hot tubs

54 Hwy.

55 Cushions

4 Christie sleuth

5 English county

6 — and crafts

7 Shad product

8 Moscow's land

9 Son of Seth

10 Pinta's companion

11 Online crafts site

17 Far (Pref.)

19 — de deux

22 Off-roader (Abbr.)

23 —

24 Busy insect

25 Wye follower

26 Bro's sib

27 Singer

28 Heavy weight

29 Sizzling

31 Parking place

34 July birthstones

35 Panache

36 Menlo Park

37 In dream-land

39 Fashion

40 Taxpayer IDs

41 Perched on

42 Self-referential

43 Popcorn seasoning

44 Castor's mother

45 Desertlike

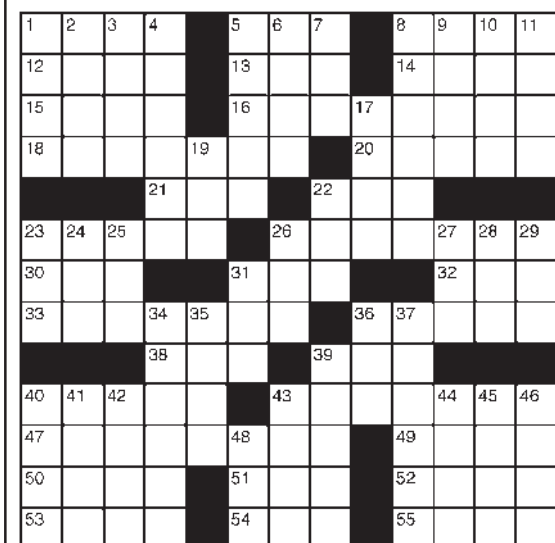
46 Decays

48 Series of battles

Solution time: 22 mins.

G	N	U	S	R	A	T	A	L	T	A
R	A	S	H	E	V	E	B	U	Y	S
A	D	E	E	S	X	P	A	C	K	S
F	A	R	R	A	H	T	I	C	K	E
S	U	G	A	R	P	E	A	S	Y	N
E	R	P	S	E	R	B	O	L		
A	N	A	G	S	A	O	P	A	U	L
L	O	U	I	S	E					
L	O	U	I	S	E	N	E	P	H	E
S	T	A	M	P	P	A	D	E	U	R
T	O	T	E	I	R	E	C	L	A	N
S	E	L	S	C	A	U	I	A	S	K

Yesterday's answer 9-6



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Idris Elba, 50; Rosie Perez, 58; Jane Curtin, 75; Swoosie Kurtz, 78.

Happy Birthday: Push forward with enthusiasm. Be the life of the party and the one with all the suggestions. Use your strengths, work on your weaknesses and strive to maintain balance. Select the key players in your life for the right reasons. Recognize your skills and attributes and use them to your advantage. Think before you act, and protect against illness and injury. Your numbers are 6, 13, 15, 24, 34, 41, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your imagination will run wild. Don't disregard the thoughts and images that come to mind. Turn your ideas into something new and exciting, but don't go over budget or make decisions that cause problems with someone you love and respect. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Get the ball rolling. If you wait, nothing will unfold the way you expect. Size up your situation, what you can change and the best way to proceed. Refuse to let anyone confuse you. Listen, but follow the path that feels right. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Consider what you can do before you act. Keep your options open and adjust along the way to ensure you remain current and a contender when faced with competition. Don't put your health or physical well-being in jeopardy. A quick response is favored. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't feel pressured to decide if you aren't ready. A mistake or taking on more than you

can handle will weigh heavy on your mind and influence your emotional well-being and relationships. Change begins with you. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Size up situations before you implement change. Keep the peace by remaining neutral until you have gathered enough information to continue. Understand the pros and cons, and counteract any negatives that surface with incentives and alternatives. Live up to your promises. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Volunteer, step forward and make a statement. Stand up for your rights, and recognize what you can do to contribute. Consider every angle of a situation, and you'll find a simple, well-received solution. Romance is on the rise. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Do your research, develop a strategy and put your plan in motion. A proposal will be difficult to turn down, and you should carefully consider your options before choosing your next move. Don't jeopardize your physical well-being. Protect against injury and illness. ★★

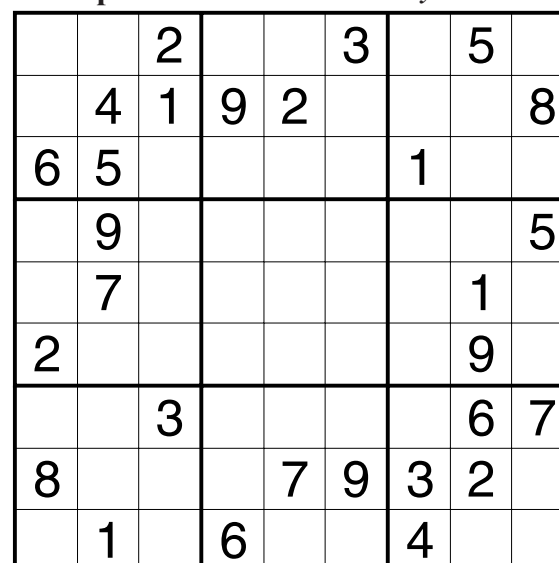
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Listen to your peers, and you'll get a different perspective regarding what's happening and how you can take advantage of an unfolding situation. A change of heart will help you let go of what's no longer working for you. Embrace new beginnings. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Tidy up loose ends, and pursue something that makes you happy. Establishing what's best for you will help you put a plan in place that is foolproof and geared toward self-satisfaction.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



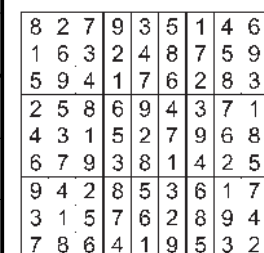
Difficulty Level ★★

9/06

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer



EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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Recognize what's possible and what you need help achieving. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll have a unique approach to spending, saving and earning cash. Pay attention to what others do and say, but follow the path that feels right. Market your skills to fill a niche that needs what you can offer. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't limit it what you can do because someone keeps changing their mind. When left to your own devices, do what feels right and stop worrying about how others will react. Take responsibility for yourself. Personal growth is encouraged. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Put your energy where it will bring the highest return. Use your wisdom, expertise, physical strength and courage to finish things on time. Take precautions when faced with situations that are health risks. Romance is encouraged. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are playful, original and ambitious. You are receptive and optimistic.

★: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ★★: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ★★★: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ★★★★★: Aim high; start new projects. ★★★★★: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

HERE'S PAWS FOR THOUGHT

Solution: 8 letters



© 2022 Andrews McMeel Syndicator www.wonderword.com 9/6
Adopt, Akita, Ball, Beagle, Beds, Bone, Boxer, Bulldog, Canine, Collie, Dogs, German Shepherd, Goldendoodle, Grooming, Harness, Husky, Joyful, Kennel, Kibble, Lapdog, Leash, List, Love, Loyal, Maltese, Mastiff, Park, Pets, Petting, Playful, Poodle, Pugs, Puppies, Rescue, Rottweiler, Runs, Shar, Pei, Spaniel, Stay, Tail, Tips, Toy, Train, Treat, Tricks, Walks
Yesterday's Answer: Create
To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 56 through 70, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Kyrgios beats 2021 champ Medvedev, discusses mental state

NEW YORK (AP)—Nick Kyrgios sat in the Arthur Ashe Stadium locker room after ending Daniil Medvedev's U.S. Open title defense and stay at No. 1 in the rankings and felt a mix of pride and relief.

Pride at the big-serving, solid-returning performance that resulted in a 7-6 (11), 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 victory over Medvedev on Sunday night, the latest in a series of career-altering results that carried Kyrgios to his first quarterfinal at Flushing Meadows on the heels of his run to his first Grand Slam final at Wimbledon.

Pride, he said, at lifting himself out of "some really tough situations, mentally" and "some really scary places" off the court, which he first revealed in February. Pride, he went on, at succeeding in distancing himself from "feeling so depressed all the time, so feeling sorry for myself."

And relief, Kyrgios explained as he fiddled with the gray Boston Celtics cap he was wearing to his post-match news conference, at being able to come through when the lights are the brightest and stakes the highest, "because there's just so much pressure every time I go out on court, so much expectation, so much unpredictability of what I can do."



Nick Kyrgios, of Australia, walks across the court after winning his match against Daniil Medvedev, of Russia, during the fourth round of the U.S. Open tennis championships, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2022, in New York.

The 23rd-seeded Kyrgios, a 27-year-old from Australia, never had managed to make it past the third round of the U.S.

Open until now, going 0-4 at that stage in the past. He also never has managed to parlay his unquestioned skill into

the terrific play with any semblance of the consistency he is displaying lately.

"I'm just glad I'm finally

able to show New York my talent," Kyrgios said after delivering 21 aces and employing his typical go-for-broke style against Medvedev. "I haven't had too many great trips here."

He reached his first Grand Slam semifinal, then first Grand Slam final, at the All England Club in July, before losing to Novak Djokovic in the title match. Then Kyrgios won his first ATP title in three years at Washington in August. He followed that up with a victory over Medvedev at a hard-court tournament in Montreal soon after. He leads the ATP Tour in match wins since June.

Medvedev likened the way Kyrgios played Sunday to the level regularly reached by Rafael Nadal, who owns 22 Grand Slam titles and plays his fourth-round match Monday against American Frances Tiafoe, and Djokovic, who has 21 majors but is not at the U.S. Open because he is not vaccinated against COVID-19 and so was not allowed to travel to the United States.

"Didn't miss a lot. Didn't really surprise me," Medvedev said. "If he plays like this 'til end of the tournament, he has all the chances to win it."

Wouldn't that be something?

Kyrgios is still Kyrgios during the course of a match, and was again on this evening.

Unsure of the relevant rule, he lost a point by running around the net to hit a ball

that was going to land way out, then celebrated what he thought was a terrific play by raising a finger to make an "I'm No. 1" gesture.

During his on-court interview, Kyrgios sheepishly told the crowd: "I still can't believe the bonehead play I made over here. I thought it was legal. That's going to be all over 'SportsCenter,' so I'm going to like an idiot."

He yelled at his guest box. He argued with the chair umpire and drew a warning for cursing. He smacked a ball in anger that ricocheted off a blue wall behind a baseline, coming close to flying over and landing amid spectators.

Medvedev, meanwhile, had been playing well enough to win all nine sets he played in Week 1 and look ready to give himself a shot at becoming the first man to win consecutive trophies in New York since Roger Federer grabbed the last of his five in a row from 2004-08.

But the 26-year-old Russian said he was bothered by a sore throat and generally "felt a little bit sick," which he attributed to too-powerful air conditioning in the U.S. that he finds "just crazy."

Now Medvedev — whose victory over Djokovic in the 2021 U.S. Open final ended his bid for the first calendar-year Grand Slam in men's tennis since 1969 — will relinquish the top ranking. Three players have a chance to replace him there: Nadal, Carlos Alcaraz and Casper Ruud.

"I feel like tonight was another message that rankings don't matter," said Kyrgios, who will meet No. 27 seed Karen Khachanov for a spot in the semifinals.

Kyrgios has said that had he won Wimbledon, he might not have shown up at the U.S. Open at all. If he managed to win a Grand Slam title, he figured, the motivation to earn one would dissipate.

Right before this tournament began, Kyrgios sat down with a small group of reporters and talked about missing home — his brother recently had a child; his mother was ill — and how much he can't wait to return to Australia after months away. So his first-round match would be a "win-win," he said: "If I win, it's more money and another great result. If I lose, I get to go home."

On Sunday night, Kyrgios was asked whether he still thought that way.

"Three more matches, potentially, then we never have to play tennis again," came the reply.

And then Kyrgios smiled a wide smile.

Boston Celtics say Gallinari has torn knee ligament

BOSTON (AP)—The Boston Celtics said Friday that Danilo Gallinari tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee while playing for Italy during a FIBA World Cup qualifier against Georgia last month.

Gallinari tore the same ligament in 2013. The Celtics didn't provide a timeline for the forward's return. But such injuries typically involve a recovery process of up to a year, meaning it would be unlikely for the veteran to play this season.

The Celtics signed Gallinari to a two-year, \$13 million contract in July. He averaged 11.7 points for Atlanta last season.

The 34-year-old Gallinari is averaging 15.6 points over 13 NBA seasons with the Hawks, New York, Denver, the Los Angeles Clippers and Oklahoma City.

Video of the injury shows Gallinari receiving a pass on a fast break and taking a step before he starts to hobble. In the days afterward Gallinari initially expressed he was diagnosed with a meniscus injury.

In an Instagram post shortly after the team announced his new diagnosis, Gallinari said he would work to return to action as soon as possible.



Atlanta Hawks forward Danilo Gallinari (8) puts up a shot past Houston Rockets guard Jalen Green, middle, as center Clint Capela, left, looks on during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, April 10, 2022, in Houston.

"This has been a tough week for me as I have learned the extent of my injury," the post read. "This game means everything to me and not being able to be on the court with my Celtics teammates hurts. I plan to give everything I can to the Celtics organization and my teammates as we hunt for a title."

Since being drafted in the

first round by the Knicks in 2008, Gallinari bounced around before helping Atlanta make a surprise Eastern Conference finals run in 2021.

The Celtics were hoping Gallinari and Malcolm Brogdon, another free agency pickup, could bolster their rotation after falling to the Golden State Warriors in the NBA Finals.

Gallinari said in July that as-

suming a reserve role the past two seasons in Atlanta has helped him enter a phase in his career in which he isn't the centerpiece of an offense.

"At that point in my career it was a move I decided to accept," Gallinari said. "It's something that you've got to adjust and you've got to be a pro. And whatever's got to be done, you've got to do it."

Pujols hits No. 695, needs 1 more HR to tie A-Rod for 4th



ST. LOUIS (AP)—Albert Pujols hit his 695th career homer in the eighth inning and Miles Mikolas tossed eight shutout innings, leading the St. Louis Cardinals to a 2-0 win over the Chicago Cubs on Sunday.

Pujols hit the two-run pinch-hit homer off reliever Brandon Hughes (2-2). The 42-year-old Pujols has 16 homers this season.

Pujols trails only Barry Bonds (762), Hank Aaron (755), Babe Ruth (714) and Alex Rodriguez (696) on the all-time list.

Pujols has seven pinch-hit homers in his career, and two this season. He has homered against a record 451 pitchers.

St. Louis has won four in a row, 18 of 20 home games and is a season-best 24 games over .500 at 79-55. It was the Cardinals' eighth series sweep of the season.

Mikolas (11-10) gave up two hits, striking out three and walking one. Ryan Helsley earned his 13th save in 17 chances.

Chicago starter Marcus Stroman allowed four hits in seven shutout innings. He struck out five and did not walk a batter in a 98-pitch outing.

Yankees 2, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Aaron Judge led off the game with his major league-leading 53rd homer and New York stopped Tampa Bay to avoid a three-game sweep.

Judge set a career high for homers, topping the 52 he hit as a rookie in 2017. He also doubled, singled and scored both New York runs.

Frankie Montas (5-11) allowed one hit over five shutout innings as the AL East-leading Yankees increased their lead to five games over Tampa Bay. The Rays trailed by 15 1/2 games on July 10.

Down 2-0, Tampa Bay tried to rally in the ninth against Clay Holmes, the fourth Yankees reliever. David Peralta led off with his second double of the game and scored on a one-out single by pinch-hitter Francisco Mejia.

Braves 7, Marlins 1

In Atlanta, Max Fried allowed no hits in five scoreless innings against Miami, Marcell Ozuna homered and Atlanta won its fifth straight game.

The defending World Series champion Braves have taken five in a row and 20 of 25 to move a season-high 33 games over .500 at 84-51. They are within one game of first place in the NL East.

Fried (13-5) didn't allow a baserunner, retiring 12 in a row, until Nick Fortes walked to begin the fifth. Fortes was

erased as a double play ended the inning before a rain delay of 1 hour, 51 minutes. Fried didn't return after the delay.

Miami, which managed three hits, has dropped a season-high seven in row and has been held to two runs or fewer in eight straight.

Dodgers 9, Padres 4

In Los Angeles, Will Smith homered for the second consecutive game and Trayce Thompson added a pinch-hit home run as Los Angeles used two big innings to beat San Diego.

The Dodgers, who have the best record in the MLB at 92-41, extended their lead over the Padres in the NL West to 19 games with 29 games remaining.

Thompson hit the second pinch-hit homer of his career, a three-run shot in the seventh inning. Smith hit his 21st homer of the season, a solo shot off starter Mike Clevinger (5-6), who lasted 3 1/3 innings and allowed five earned runs on four hits and two walks with four strikeouts.

Astros 9, Angels 1

In Anaheim, Calif., Jose Altuve had three hits and drove in three runs, and José Urquidy pitched four-hit ball over seven innings as Houston beat Los Angeles.

Mike Trout helped the Angels avert a shutout with his 29th home run, a solo shot to center in the eighth inning off Astros' reliever Brandon Bielak.

Altuve chased Angels' starter Tucker Davidson (2-5) with a two-run homer to left field for his 23rd of the season. The All-Star second baseman — who went 6 for 13 in the series — also had an RBI double during a five-run second inning.

Urquidy (13-5) struck out eight and retired 12 straight from the third through seventh innings before Mike Ford lined a base hit to right field.

Blue Jays 4, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Teoscar Hernandez delivered the go-ahead RBI single in the seventh inning and Toronto edged Pittsburgh to complete a three-game sweep.

Hernandez lined a shot up the middle against Duane Underwood Jr. (1-5) with two outs to push Toronto in front, and the bullpen did the rest. The Blue Jays improved to a season-best 14 games over .500 (73-59) to maintain their hold on the third and final wild-card spot in the American League.

Toronto begins a four-game series against Baltimore, which is chasing Toronto for a postseason berth, starting



St. Louis Cardinals' Albert Pujols tips his cap after hitting a two-run home run during the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Chicago Cubs Sunday, Sept. 4, 2022, in St. Louis.

Monday at Camden Yards.

Hernandez and Alejandro Kirk had two hits apiece for Toronto, which has won five of six and 12 of 17. Cavan Biggio hit his fifth home of the season and second in five days for the Blue Jays.

Mariners 6, Guardians 3, 1 innings

In Cleveland, J.P. Crawford singled in the go-ahead run in the 11th inning, Cal Raleigh added a two-run homer and Seattle beat slumping Cleveland for its seventh straight win in a game that was delayed by rain for 4 hours, 33 minutes.

With one out, Crawford bounced a single past Trevor Stephan (4-4) and into center field to score Eugenio Suárez, who began the 11th as the automatic runner. Raleigh, who homered twice on Friday, followed by belting a 2-2 pitch to right for his 22nd homer.

Matthew Boyd (1-0) worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the 10th and Chris Flexen pitched the 11th for his second save of the season as the Mariners completed a three-game sweep.

Twins 5, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Carlos Correa homered for Minnesota and Dylan Bundy shut down Chicago once again.

Jose Miranda added a two-run double in the ninth inning as Minnesota salvaged the finale of the weekend series. Max Kepler scored on Kendall Graveman's wild pitch in the eighth, and Jhoan Duran turned in some impressive relief work.

The Twins finished with 12 hits. Correa connected in the fifth, hitting a two-run drive to left-center off Lucas Giolito (10-9) for his 16th homer. Bundy (8-6) pitched five scoreless innings to improve

to 7-0 with a 3.15 ERA in 10 career appearances against the White Sox.

Athletics 5, Orioles 0

In Baltimore, Seth Brown hit a pair of solo homers, rookie Adrián Martínez threw six innings of three-hit ball and Oakland stalled Baltimore's playoff surge.

The Orioles fell 2 1/2 games behind Toronto in the race for the American League's third wild-card spot.

Martínez (4-3) was recalled from Triple-A Las Vegas on Aug. 28, for his fourth stint with Oakland this year. He finished with four strikeouts and two walks and retired 10 consecutive batters.

Diamondbacks 5, Brewers 1

In Phoenix, Zac Gallen tied the major-league record with his sixth consecutive scoreless start to lead Arizona over Milwaukee.

Gallen (11-2) extended his scoreless streak to 41 1/3 innings, allowing two singles and a walk in seven innings. It was his sixth straight start without allowing a run, tying Don Drysdale (1968), Orel Hersher (1988) and Zack Greinke (2015).

Daulton Varsho hit his 20th homer and helped preserve Gallen's scoreless streak with a running catch on Tyrone Taylor's drive to right center in the second.

Nationals 7, Mets 1

In New York, César Hernández hit his first homer in more than a year in Washington's victory over New York.

The last-place Nationals took two of three in the series.

Luis García had an RBI single in the first inning, then the Nationals scored four unearned runs against Carlos Carrasco (13-6) in the third after second baseman Jeff

McNeil's error led to two-run singles by Keibert Ruiz and Ildemaro Vargas.

Hernández's drive was his first since Aug. 26, 2021, a span of 155 games. Entering Sunday, only the Los Angeles Angels' Magneuris Sierra (223 games) and the Cleveland Guardians' Myles Straw (157 games) had gone longer without homering among active players.

Red Sox 5, Rangers 2

In Boston, Trevor Story hit a three-run homer over the Green Monster, Xander Bogaerts had his eighth straight multi-hit game and Boston completed a four-game sweep of Texas.

The Red Sox have a five-game winning streak as they try to climb back into the AL's wild-card chase. The Rangers have lost eight straight.

Bogaerts had an RBI double and run-scoring single in his three hits. His stretch is the longest for a Boston player since Kevin Youkilis tied the club record with nine in 2007.

Adolis García had an RBI double for Texas, which lost for the 15th time in 18 games in Fenway Park and fell to a season-worst 17 games under .500.

Reliever Kaleb Ort (1-1) was credited with his first MLB victory, and John Schreiber earned his seventh save.

Royals 3, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Bobby Witt Jr.'s eighth-inning double drove in the go-ahead run and Kansas City edged Detroit.

MJ Melendez scored a run and drove in another while Michael A. Taylor had three hits and scored a run. Witt reached base three times.

Winning pitcher Dylan Coleman (4-1) pitched 1 1/3 innings of scoreless relief.

Scott Barlow collected his 21st save.

Detroit starter Matt Manning gave up two runs and five hits in four innings. Gregory Soto (2-8) took the loss.

Harold Castro's two-run homer accounted for Detroit's runs. Riley Greene extended his hitting streak to 13 games with a third-inning single.

Reds 10, Rockies 0, game 2 Rockies 8, Reds 4, game 1

In Cincinnati, Aristides Aquino hit his first career grand slam an inning after entering as an injury replacement in the nightcap and Cincinnati split a doubleheader with Colorado.

Aquino entered as the designated hitter in the fifth after Jonathan India fouled a pitch of his right foot and was removed. Aquino's fifth home run of the season came off Chad Smith with two outs in the sixth.

India went 0 for 3, ending his career-best hitting streak at 16 games.

Derek Law (2-1) got the win. Jose Urena (3-6) allowed six earned runs in 5 1/3 innings.

In the opener, Charlie Blackmon's pinch-hit two-run single highlighted a four-run seventh for Colorado, and C.J. Cron hit a two-run homer in the ninth for the Rockies.

Rookie left-hander Nick Lodolo tied a career-high with nine strikeouts, TJ Friedl homered twice and Jonathan India hit a two-run homer for Cincinnati. Joe Kuhnel (2-3) took the loss.

Rockies starter German Marquez (8-10) allowed just one hit through the first five innings.

Giants 5, Phillies 3

In San Francisco, Carlos Rodón reached the 200-strikeout mark for the first time in his career and Wilmer Flores hit a two-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning as San Francisco completed a three-game sweep and sent Philadelphia to its sixth loss in seven games.

Rookie Bryce Johnson, who got his first major league hit and RBI earlier in the game, drew a leadoff walk in the ninth for the Giants. David Robertson (3-2) struck out the next two batters before Flores hit his 17th home run.

J.T. Realmuto hit a tying, three-run homer in the Phillies eighth. Camilo Doval (5-6) pitched the ninth.

Ranger Suárez was done after four innings for the Phillies and saw his winless stretch reach five starts since beating the Nationals on Aug. 6.

Gecko 5000, all schools cross country kick off Sept. 10

Cross country season will start this Saturday, Sept. 10, 2022 at 6am with the Gecko 5000 hosted by Saipan International School.

Not only will the Gecko 5000 include elementary school, middle school, and high school all schools categories, but there is also an open women's 6K, an open men's 8K, and a 5K fun run for everyone. Interested community members can register online at: <https://raceroster.com/events/2022/63944/gecko-5000-22>.

This is the third year that SIS has hosted the Gecko 5000 at Banzai Cliff but this year will feature a new "Out and Back" course starting and ending near the parking lot of Banzai Cliff. The day will start off with the high school division at 6:10am, followed by middle school and then elementary school. The fun run and adult races will all start at 7:10am. Two water stations will be on the course.

Registration includes a participant shirt while supplies last, a custom race bib and a chance to win the Gecko 5000 bronze, silver, or gold medals for the fastest runners in each category. Proceeds will go to the



Saipan International School's Gecko 5000 and all schools cross country event will be held this Saturday, Sept. 10, starting at Banzai Cliff.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SIS scholarship fund, helping families through these difficult financial times.

"The race is sanctioned by Northern Marianas Athletics, the Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association, and the CNMI PSS Athletics Department," commented SIS headmaster and Northern Marianas Athletics distance coach Ron Snyder.

SIS and NMA would also like to thank the following sponsors who are

making this possible: Gold level sponsors are Fish and Tackle, Moylan's Insurance, Hei Café, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Chung-A Juny & Lya. Silver sponsors are Aca Corps, Happy Market, Athletes Foot, Joeten SuperStore, Casa de Song, Marpac and bronze sponsors are, City Trust Bank, E-Land, The Water Company, Smile Marianas, Run Saipan, JP World Corp., Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc., Himawari and Brabu Pharmacy." (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

An SIS student models this year's event T-shirt for the Gecko 5000.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SIS' Gecko mascot.

DUNLOP

From Page 20

the King's Court with Dunlop and Manansala, a valiant challenger to the throne. It was two Saipan and two Guam players all together at the end.

After the game, Manansala told the PFNMI that, "on behalf of our pickleball family from Guam we would like to thank each and every one of you Saipan Pickleballers for hosting us once again, the hospitality and tournament organizers is top notch, we can't thank all you enough and we promise to be back in November and play with all of you again. We love you Saipan pickleball family!"

Manansala also told *Saipan Tribune* during their morning session that the players on Saipan have "grown" and have "advanced" since the last time Guam pickleball players were on Saipan last July.

According to the PFNMI, the event was not an actual tournament but was designed as a fun event where every player would play 16 10-minute matches and the goal of each player was to reach and be on the King's Court at the end.

There were eight rounds played in the morning and eight rounds in the evening. All matches were doubles, and after each match, the winners moved clockwise to-

ward the King's Court while the losers moved counterclockwise toward the Jester's Court.

Then each team would split up so that they did not play with the same partner, using rock, scissors, paper to determine their new teammate, creating new, randomly selected matchups.

Players' starting positions and first partners were drawn randomly by a computer program, so there were advantages and disadvantages, but a challenge for everyone at each new match.

Players who received good draws on the Top 3 courts needed to defend their position, while those who started on the lower courts needed

to fight their way up to the top courts before the event ended. Chaos reigned and created lots of good camaraderie along the way.

Marivic Dunlop, tournament director of the event, organized a successful and fun program, according to PFNMI. Gameplay ended with a potluck dinner and a gift exchange for all involved, spectators as well.

Marivic is Saipan's top female but drew a start at the very bottom, on the second court. She worked her way up to the third court from the top, an admirable feat, but as the final match needed to be canceled as everyone was tired and anxious for the fun part to begin, she ran out of

time to be able to challenge for the queen.

First-time player Shelly Tran of Paradise Dental said, "This was the most fun day in my pickleball life! I can't thank the amazing team enough for putting in all the work to make it happen. It was so much fun to watch the last event but getting to play in this was on a whole other level. I feel so lucky that I get to come in after and enjoy this wonderful community that Nelson, Donna, Donn, Marivic, Nicky [Nicholson], and so many fun people here have helped create. You guys are what make Saipan special".

A telling remark was made when Dale Roberts was asked about his fin-

ish on the King's Court, he credited his success to his remarkable prowess in the rock-scissors-paper to continually draw the best partners so he could advance. It sums up the randomness of this truly fun format, where everyone wins.

Lastly, Nicky Nichols, a pickleballer, said that Saipan's pickleballers feel that Nelson and Donna Krum are "also kings and queens for all their support" and that they all thank them both for advancing pickleball in Saipan.

The "King's Court" event served as a prelude to PFNMI's Inaugural Marianas Cup between the CNMI and Guam set for Nov. 5, also at the AMP tennis courts.

SPAETH

From Page 20

made her feel "good" and that she did her "best" to make sure she won first place.

With regards to what training she's done in preparation for the event, she said "I have swim practice and we practice swimming faster. Last time my swim teacher was practicing [us] on how fast we could go and beating our time... [I was] trying to do my best and I was also thinking about...

what place I would get."

In the girls' age group of 5 to 6 years old, Olivia Walsh topped it with a time of 7:30, followed by Cloe Burrell at 8:35, and Mika McKagan at 9:35.

In the boys' 5 to 6 years old age group, Juwon Park came out on top with a time of 8:20, Jace Brennfleck came in second with a time of 8:47, and Declan Spaeth came in at a time of 9:01.

In the 7 to 8 years old boys' age group, Gabriel Walsh topped it with a time of 6:36, which is the second

fastest time in the triathlon overall, followed by Yubo Lin at 6:37, and Beau Bauer at 6:47.

In the older kid's category from 9 to 12 years old overall, and specifically within the nine to 10 years old boys' age group, Quido Jambor came in first with a time of 11:57, followed by Kanoa Owens at 11:57, and Philip James Seman at 16:02.

Jambor told *Saipan Tribune* after the race that he "felt really good" winning first place because "I'm not really good at swimming

but I'm good at running and biking so that helped me."

In the 11 to 12 years old girls' age group, the only competitor was Olivia Zhang who came in with the time of 17:22.

And lastly, in the 11 to 12 years old boys' age group, Akeem Edvalson was first with the time of 12:51, followed by Keoni Ruszala at 16:05, then James Zhang Xiong at 17:39.

The Triathlon Association of the CNMI helped organize the Taga Kid Triathlon.

HOTSHOTS

From Page 20

out the game Hotshots' star player Becky Repeki shot a home run, hit a double, and collected four RBIs—the most in the game.

The bombardment of hits seemed endless but relief came as the Hotshots were shut down in the second inning. It was short-lived though as they came back in the third inning to score five more runs against Kosebaki's additional three, to

make the game 16-5.

The game was over even though the Hotshots could not get any more runs in as Kosebaki weren't able to catch up, putting up only an additional seven runs for a final score of 16-13.

This game brought the Hotshots out of the gutter to three wins and two losses and Kosebaki tied up their wins and losses at three apiece.

The games that were played in the men's division last Sunday will be published in tomorrow's edition of *Saipan Tribune*.



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champ Medvedev,
discusses mental
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schools cross
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Dunlop, Manansala, Hanzen are royalty



LEIGH GASES
Pickleball players from the CNMI and Guam join for a group photo last Saturday at the American Memorial Park tennis court during the "King's Court" event.

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

After a whole Saturday of fun under the sun at the American Memorial Park pickleball courts, Donn Dunlop and Albert Manansala were crowned kings and rising teenage star Chelsea Henzon was crowned queen of the Pickleball Federation of the Northern Mariana Islands' King Court tourney.

Manansala, a pickleball player from Guam, began on the King's Court and had to fight off all challengers that came his way.

Dunlop, a pickleball player from Saipan, worked his way up from five courts down at the start. An honorable mention needs to be given to Guam's formidable Derek Alcorn, who teamed up with Dale Roberts of Saipan in their last match

to reach the King's Court at tournament's end.

Alcorn had to struggle through the lower courts throughout the morning, bouncing back and forth as he graciously played a "gentleman's game" with the club's newer and less experienced players.

In the afternoon, Alcorn ramped it up and won six straight matches to end up on



See DUNLOP on Page 19

Spaeth, Jambor fastest in Taga Kids sprint triathlon

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Right after the adults had their go with the sprint triathlon event for the Tan Holdings 50th Anniversary celebration, children had a jump in their own scaled-down version in the Taga Kids Triathlon at Paupau Beach last Saturday.

The course was all within the confines of Paupau Beach, with the children's parents and family right beside them and cheering them on. The younger and older children were divided into age groups with the younger children running the



Spaeth



Jambor

course first.

Children in the age group of 5 to eight 8 old had to do a 50m swim, one lap on the bike, and a one lap run. The course for the age group of nine to 12 years old was doubled with a 100m swim, two bike laps, and two laps of running.

Lovel Spaeth in the girls' age group of 7 to eight 8 old came in the fastest among all the children in all age groups with a time of 6:31. Aileen Kim came in after at 7:23, then Raeya Edvalson at 7:35.

Spaeth was interviewed after her run and told *Saipan Tribune* that winning first place

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Hotshots triumph over Kosebaki, 16-13

By LEIGH GASES
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Hotshots took over the game early against Kosebaki to secure a 16-13 win in the women's division the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

Kosebaki pitcher Jennie Scalliem could not get past the Hotshots' explosive lineup as batter after batter made contact with each

pitch resulting in an 11-run first inning, putting Hotshots up, 11-2.

Britney Lizama of the Hotshots got the momentum going as the first batter to get a hit which began a trickle effect of hits down the whole lineup. Hotshots' bats were certainly on fire as only one batter struck out while everyone except one batter had at least a hit each.

Additionally, through-

See HOTSHOTS on Page 19



LEIGH GASES

A Hotshots batter eyes and swings at a pitch made by Kosebaki's pitcher in the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.